

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)
FEBRUARY 19, 2010

"If help and salvation are to come, they can only come from the children, for the children are the makers of men."

~Dr. Maria Montessori

"The time is always right to do what is right."

~Mr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Notes from Michelle

A few weeks ago, three Lower Elementary students came to ask me what we could do for Haiti. I asked them to research and develop an idea, so they looked up organizations and decided on the Red Cross. They called the Red Cross to find out what was most needed and the Red Cross indicated cash. Then these young ladies went to each classroom to share the idea of bringing in change to collect to donate to Haiti. **After two weeks, the students have collected \$770.00.** This will be delivered to the Red Cross today. Our students are a constant reminder of "what can be".

As we draw closer to Spring, we get closer to Middle School Information Nights. Each of the local middle schools have "open houses" or "informational evenings". Amy has made calls so that hopefully we will have the dates of these as soon as they are available. We will also be holding an "informational evening" for our 5th graders closer to the end of April or early May.

The state of California has decided to discontinue the 4th grade writing part of the STAR test. The students will now be tested only in April as opposed to both the writing day in March and the remainder of the test in April.



Staff Appreciation (SA)

Classroom Host for March is Room 201 - Emily & Ket. Please continue to email Mona Logasa at mlogasa@comcast.net for the dates you wish to volunteer. March 3, SA will be hosting a Spring Blossoms buffet for Michelle and her staff. More details to follow. The other March dates for SA Wednesday Snacks are 3/10, 3/17, 3/24 & 3/31. Any questions, please contact Mona.



Board News

The EPMS Board met on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, and a summary of the main issues discussed are as follows:

Budget: The two budget workshops were a huge success. Thank you to all who attended and thank you for your feedback, comments and suggestions. It appears that the State funding outlook for public schools will be grim for the next few years. The Executive Committee of the Board met on February 9, 2010, and looked at next year's budget. We were able to reduce the deficit by \$66,000. No programs will be cut. Independent study is a very important aspect to our budget (see below). More budget details to come in an upcoming Friday Folder issue solely dedicated to the "State of the School."

Board Member Positions Open: There are 2 parent positions and 2 community positions open for the 2010-2013 term. If you are interested in applying for a Board member position, applications must be turned in no later than April 30, 2010. You can email Ms. Hammons for an application. Interviews will take place in May – date TBA. Board appointments will take place at the June 15th Board meeting.

EPMS' 10 Year Anniversary: EPMS will be 10 years old soon! Our charter was approved on March 28, 2000. We plan to attend the MDUSD Board meeting on March 23rd @ 6:30 pm to say thank you and possibly have a short presentation. We'd like as many parents, students and alumni to attend to show support for EPMS.

On Monday, March 29th we'll celebrate the anniversary of our charter approval with coffee and snacks for parents in the morning and an ice-cream social for the students in the afternoon. We hope to see you there!

Independent study: If your child has an unexcused absence OR is out for 2 or more days, it costs EPMS \$35 a day per child. Our funding is tied to our attendance levels, and the independent study is a way to keep our attendance levels up even if your child is absent. Please phone in when your child will not be in school for the day and please request an Independent Study from your child's teacher if they will miss 2 or more days of school. We really appreciate your cooperation.

The EPMS Board of Directors

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WCRA 2010 Update

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Save-the-Date Response Form

If you haven't done so already, please complete and return your Save-the-Date response form to the office. A preliminary headcount greatly helps us plan for this wonderful event. If you misplaced your form, more copies are available in the office.



Donation Request in Today's FF

The Auction Committee is well under way with its planning for this year's fabulous Wine & Cheese Reception. We have had some amazing items donated so far from businesses near and far. As we coordinate activities for our upcoming auction, we hope that you may be able to help us obtain some additional donations from people and/or companies you know. Please see the flyer packet included in this Friday Folder for details. Thank you.



Calling all Parents!!

Looking for a way to help out with our school auction? Donations are needed to add a final touch to our auction packages. Our requests include:

- Toy Train
- Picnic Basket
- Picnic Blanket
- Bottle of Pellegrino
- 1 lb. of See's Candies
- Display case (for a football)
- Platter
- Tool box
- Safety Goggles, respirator mask and gloves
- Golf paraphernalia or gift card to a golf supply store
- Disney items
- One or two night hotel stay in Monterey
- Gift cards for grocery stores, restaurants, spa's, and sports supply store, etc.

In an effort to avoid duplicate donations, please contact our donations coordinator Katina Lawrence at: katlawrence72@sbcglobal.net or (925) 381-7460 with your donation offer prior to your purchase.



Auction Items Just In:

- Two admission tickets from the Aquarium of the Bay
- \$200 credit towards bar method classes from the Bar Method in WC
- T-shirt and gift cards from In-N-Out
- Admission for four from Lindsay Wildlife Museum
- 18 Holes of golf w/ cart + 15% discount on room stay from Little River Inn
- One year family membership to Mendocino Coast Botanical Garden
- Gift card for two plaza level outfield tickets from the Oakland A's
- Brunch for four-gift card from Patrick David's.
- Mug and coffee from Peet's Coffee & Tea
- Admission for four at Ripley's Believe It or Not
- Basket with food items + gift card from Rocco's Ristorante & Pizzeria
- Two admission tickets from SF MOMA
- One year family pass w/ two guests from UC Botanical Garden
- Two complimentary passes from Winchester Mystery House



Auction Package Preview

Please look for the flyer in today's Friday Folder showcasing one of our many fabulous auction packages that will be available for bidding!



WCRA Volunteer Opportunities

We still need volunteers for the evening of the event on Saturday April 24th. Volunteer opportunities are as follow:

- Set-up/Clean-up
- Glass/plate Monitors
- Live bidding assistants
- Exit/Check-out monitors



Wine Donations

In an attempt to keep the costs of the event to a minimum, we are hoping families will be able to donate a bottle or two of wine for pouring at the event. If you are able to donate wine, please contact Kim Newman, Wine Coordinator at 925-348-7625 or kimberly_newman@sbcglobal.net to arrange for pick up! Thanks!

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Talent Show Update

Talent Show Attendees - Please note! For every-one coming to the Talent Show on February 26th at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, there are a couple of logistics to keep in mind. The number of acts we have in the show, combined with the fact that another event will be taking place at the church that evening, has impacted how we will handle refreshments. Refreshments will only be sold prior to the show, though we ask everyone to honor the church's requirement of no food or drink in the worship center. Therefore, we will bag your refreshments and you can choose to step out of the center to eat during the show, or wait for intermission. This will help us coordinate our activities with the other event, and will especially help us to keep intermission very short.

Secondly, while the church thinks there won't be an issue with parking, I wanted to let you know that overflow parking is available that night in the Walnut Acres Elementary School faculty parking lot across the street.

Thanks! Jenn Hartmann 925-708-2128



Stargazing Night: Volunteers Needed

Need more volunteer hours? Come join the team that's organizing EPMS's Stargazing night on March 19 (weather permitting). We have lots of ways in you can help educate your kids while raising funds for the school. We need people to take tickets, serve food, run a raffle, and even demonstrate how telescopes work. If you have an interest in science or just love reaching for the stars, we'd like to hear from you! Please contact Neil Kilcoin at: kilcoins4@comcast.net.



Teacher Trips 2010

Our teachers have thoughtfully planned a list of fun activities for our Teacher Trips this year. As with previous years, students can purchase these activities to spend time with their beloved teachers outside of school hours! Watch out for the detailed list and sign-up dates in your Friday Folder next week. Don't miss out on this great annual EPMS fundraiser! If you have any questions please contact Weiwei Salgado 925-308-4780.



Memory Books & Shout Outs! are on Sale Now.

Deadline for Shout Outs! is Monday March 15th. Purchase The Memory Book before 3/31 to get the \$25 price. Extra forms are available in the office.

Have photos to share? Questions? Contact Cheryl O'Toole at otoolecheryl@gmail.com.





Attachments this Week

- Talent Show Flyer
- Auction Item Donor Request
- Auction Package Preview








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FEBRUARY 2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|-----|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| | | | | | | Garden Work Day 8 am - 12 ----- Prospective Parents Mtg. 9:30 am |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| | | |  | Prospective Parents Mtg. 7 - 8 pm |  Talent Show @ St. Matthews Church | |

MARCH 2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 28 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| | | |  | Prospective Parents Mtg. 7 - 8 pm | Friday Market | | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| | CFEP 7:00 pm | | <-- UPPER EL - WESTMINSTER WOODS --> MARCH 10 - 12TH  | | Friday Market | | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | |
| Daylight Savings  | | EPMS Board Mtg. 7 pm |  | Save-the-Date Parent Ed. TBA | Friday Market Star Gazing  |  Garden Work Day 8 am - 12 | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | |
| | ----- 2010-11 LOTTERY MU Room 6:00 pm | ----- Parent Observations ----- Sign-up sheets will be on Classroom Doors | | | | Early Dismiss 1:00 pm | |
| | | |  | | | | |