

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)
MAY 28, 2010



Memorial Day

Monday, May 31st - No School

"A master can tell you what he expects of you. A teacher, though, awakens your own expectation."

~Chinese Proverb

'A teacher affects eternity; no one can tell where the influence stops.'

~Henry Adams



Notes from Michelle

Next Friday evening is the school picnic. I hope we see all of you there. While we recognize that these evening events are fun and relaxed opportunities for families to spend time together, please help your children to remember to respect the same basic playground and campus rules they follow during the school day. We also ask that parents remember school staff will not be supervising the children so please help to make sure the campus is respected.

Playground Rules for Students

- Up the ladder; down the slide; slide down on your bottom.
- One direction on the hand over hand bars.
- One direction on the rock climbing (up only)
- The parallel bars are for hanging and not jumping.
- One person at a time on the slide, bars, rock climbing, etc...
- Clean up balls, jump ropes, etc...
- No children in the garden without Ket.
- No chase/ tag games.
- Walking only in the courtyard, running can start on the blacktop.

Also, please note that there will be a brief End of Year ceremony on Friday, June 11 at 11:00 am. After this ceremony, we will dismiss students for lunch and there will be Dreyer's Fruit Pops for all of the children. Since it is an early dismissal day, parents are welcome to take their children with them after the ceremony if they choose.



Notes from Michelle (con't)

Included in this Friday Folder are the Parent Input forms. Please know that these forms will be kept in confidence. This is your opportunity to provide me with feedback about your child's class assignment this year and preferences for next year. Please remember that specific teacher requests are not accepted. We simply would like to know what you believe your child's needs are, if they are not currently being met.



Year End Picnic

Check your email inbox for your Evite to the year-end school potluck picnic on Friday, June 4 at 6:00 pm. There will be organized activities and face painting for the children. If you did not received your Evite, feel free to RSVP to Victoria Manassero Maat at juju-bee@pacbell.net or tel. 925.933.4432. Just let Victoria know what dish you would like to bring. Looking forward to seeing as many families as possible for this fun event!



.....from the CFEP

Wanted - CFEP Members

CFEP is currently recruiting volunteers and additional Board Members. We are looking for committee members in general and Grant Writers in particular. Please see attached flyer.

Wanted - Auction Team Members

The Auction Team is urgently seeking volunteers to help make next year's Annual Wine & Cheese Reception & Auction another huge success for EPMS. An event like this needs many volunteers and some dedicated, special leader. Please see attached flyer.

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Notes from PTLG

Nine days and counting!

Volunteers who couldn't join us for tea and cookies on Monday, please know that your hours of time and labor for EPMS do not go unnoticed. Our little community requires more parent involvement than do other schools, especially those with larger populations who have more helping hands. It takes all of us to keep things running smoothly, and it has been an exceptionally smooth year. Thank you all.

For anyone who needs last-minute volunteer hours -- or for those of us who just love EPMS -- there are a few final events we can help execute to finish out the year with a bang:

1. EPMS Year-End Picnic: Friday 6/4, 6:00 - 8:30 pm - greeters, food monitors and cleanup help needed.
2. Field Day: Thursday 6/10, 8 am - noon.
3. Yes on Measure "C": June 1st - 5th, afternoon/evening phone calls or Saturday morning walk-and-drop.
4. Cleanup Day: Saturday August 21st, 8 am - noon - we need a few more committed individuals to be part of the will-do crew!

Questions? Kris Harwood: 673-5689 or krisharwood@earthlink.net.

Last PTLG meeting will be this Tuesday, June 1st, 7:00 pm in the Multi-Use Room. See you there!

THANK YOU Staff Appreciation Updates & Volunteer Opportunities:

Classroom Hosts for Wednesday Snack:

- June: Room 302 - Linda & Emily

Dates for Wednesday Snacks:

- June 2 & 9

THANK YOU Staff Appreciation Updates (con't):

Volunteers are needed to prepare snacks for these dates. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the office for June. Please have snacks delivered to the lunch room by 11:30 am, so Michelle, teachers and staff are all able to enjoy the snacks when it comes time for their lunch.

There are only 2 Wednesdays (can you believe it?!) left to show our appreciation for EPMS staff. Let's really make the last 2 weeks memorable by expressing our gratitude with lots of goodies!

We only need a total of 8 volunteers for the rest of the school year.

Teacher & Staff Appreciation Donations:

Thank You to all that have contributed donations for the Teacher & Staff Appreciation 'End of Year Thank You Celebration' gifts.

If you have not had a chance to donate and would still like to, we are continuing to accept donations through Monday, June 7th. A donation envelope is located in the office.

For the 2nd year in a row, our entire EPMS staff has willingly accepted a pay freeze due to the financial strain on school funding. *Imagine...* The staff continues to perform in their positions with a smile on their face everyday and they do it unconditionally for our children. As a result, our children reap the greatest reward. Isn't that reason enough for us to show the teachers and staff how much we appreciate them and the things they do for our children everyday?

Please make checks payable to CFEP.

See separate flyer in FF for more details.

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Music Notes

Lower EI Music classes: Group B enjoyed revisiting "Sasa," a Polynesian sit-down dance from Samoa, which tells a story of fishermen and the ocean animals they encounter on their fishing trip. If you were at the end-of-the-year picnic last year, you might have seen your child(ren) participating. This activity encourages the students to follow musical cues from the drum (using their auditory senses), to count the repetitions of motions and sounds (using their intellect and math), and to feel a 8- measure phrase with their whole body (using kinesthetic memory).

Another lesson plan I like to use at the end of the year involves balloons. We engage in a variety of individual and team challenges to keep the balloons aloft using only the mallet heads while I play musical gestures which tell them how hard to hit the balloon, and how frequently. This activity works on the students' sense of accuracy and control of the mallets which then translates to playing the xylophones (hopefully!). We then learn a rhythmic round (think Row, Row Your Boat) called Eine Kleine Kanon by Gunild Keetman in which we change the four sounds notated to mallet sounds on floor, balloon, stems and neighbor's mallet stem. Finally, we perform the piece as written for body percussion: stomp, clap, pat and snap. Group A will have this lesson plan as a makeup on Mon. June 7th.

Upper EI classes: Have been focusing on composition and nomenclature. They also learned Eine Kleine Kanon, but we took it one step further to writing it down in musical notation. We spent considerable time on form analysis. Terms they now should know and symbols they can write: fine, d.c. al fine, measure, bar-line, double bar-line, repeat sign, treble clef, bass clef, rhythm clef, time signature, beats per measure, staff lines, notation for first and second endings, whole- half-quarter-eighth notes and their length value, and much more... We also set this piece for recorder by



Music Notes (con't)

assigning four notes to substitute for the body percussion sound. The quick rhythm required teaching them a tonguing technique using "ta-ka-ta-ka-taaaa" as they played. The students definitely have come a long way from the beginning of the year in terms of quality sound production and agility in changing fluidly from one fingering to the next. Please ask to see their music folders when they come home and encourage them to share with you what they have learned and what they enjoyed most about music class. I am proud of their hard work these last few weeks.
















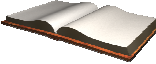





Attachments this Week

- Parent Input Form 2010-10
- Teacher Appreciation Flyer
- Spirit Week
- Join the CFEP
- Auction Help Wanted
- Native American Marketplace Catalog

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MAY/JUNE 2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	Memorial Day  No School	PTLG 7:00 pm			 6 - 8:30 pm	
☆☆ Spirit Week ☆☆ Spirit Week ☆☆ Spirit Week ☆☆						
SUNDAY - 6	MONDAY - 7	TUESDAY - 8	WEDNESDAY - 9	THURSDAY - 10	FRIDAY - 11	SATURDAY - 12
 See Flyer for Details 	 Twin Day Twin Day ----- Hyperbole Hyperbole Hyperbole Hyperbole Hyperbole Day!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! -----  Native American Marketplace	 Pajama Day ----- Board Games  -----  5th Year Matriculation 6:30 pm St. Matthews Church	 Crazy Hat Day ----- Crazy Hair Day  ----- Art Day 	 Beach Day -----  Bring a Book -----  Field Day	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL -----  Fancy Dress Day ----- Closing Ceremony & Teacher Appreciation 11:00 am ----- Dismissal 1:00 PM	 HAVE A GREAT 
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	CFEP 7:00 pm	EPMS Board 7:00 pm				 Garden Clean-up 8 am - 12
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			