

October 2008 Primary Newsletter

EVENTS TO TAKE NOTE OF IN OCTOBER 2008:

October 2, 2008: Gandhi's birthday

October 3, 2008: Observance of Gandhi's birthday. No school. No daycare.

October 7, 2008: Primary 4 and Elementary Picture Day at the San Jose Campus

October 8, 2008: Primary 3 and Infant Community Picture Day at the San Jose Campus

October 9, 2008: Picture Day at the Santa Clara Campus

October 10, 2008: Yom Kippur. Minimum Day.

October 13 and 14, 2008: Parent Teacher conference for **new** students. No school/daycare only.

October 16, 2008: Parent Information Meeting: Second year in the Montessori classroom

October 24, 2008: United Nations Day at the San Jose Campus

October 31, 2008: Halloween Celebrated at the Santa Clara Campus

RETURN YOUR FORMS PLEASE



If you have not done so, please remember to return your child's Identification and Emergency form, Medical and Field Trip Release form and Parents' Input Questionnaire.

ESCRIP



Remember that everyone is required to register in the escrip program. If you registered last year, you need to renew your Safeway registration. For more information please speak to someone in the office.

GANDHI'S BIRTHDAY

We will be honoring Gandhi's birthday on Friday, October 3, 2008. There will be no school and no daycare.



PICTURE DAY



Picture Day will be Thursday October 9th for the Santa Clara campus. The San Jose campus will have picture day on Tuesday, October 7th (for Elementary I and II and Primary IV), and Wednesday, October 8th (for Primary 3 and Infant Community). Please complete the order form and turn it in with your payment (made payable to Glow Photography) to the office.

If you wish to have sibling pictures taken, you must complete a separate order form. For San Jose students, indicate on the form which day you want the sibling picture taken (October 7 or 8).

No picture will be taken without payment.

YOM KIPPUR



On Friday, October 10th, we will be talking about Yom Kippur.

Friday is also a minimum day. School ends at 12:00 pm. There will be no school and no daycare in the afternoon.

SANTA CLARA SIGN IN/OUT

In the last few weeks, we noticed that several children were signed out at 3:00 pm or 4:00 pm (their normal pick up time), when actually they were not being picked up until much later. Please make sure to check the time when you sign out. In the future, when a staff member notices a discrepancy, a correction will be made accordingly.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

We hold formal conferences twice a year. After six weeks of school, it is very valuable for teachers and **new** parents to touch base with one another.



We will therefore schedule conferences for all **new** parents on Monday and Tuesday, October 13th and 14th. A sign-up sheet will be posted in each classroom (at Santa Clara) and in the lobby (at San Jose).

School will be closed on these days, but we will provide daycare for the Full Day students only.

However, if we have enough staff and you

need daycare on that day, we may be able to accommodate your child. Please check with the office about available space. Because the daycare is reserved for Full Day students, you will be charged at the Full Day rate for that day (\$73/day). The charge will appear on your next statement.

Since we encourage both parents to attend conferences, you are welcome to bring your child and s/he may visit with the daycare children during your visit with the teachers for no charge.

You can also reach Rebecca Keith, our Head-of-School, at home for a “mini” conference on weekend evenings between 7:30 and 9:30 pm at 650-368-0827. She can also be reached by e-mail at rebecca@oneworldmontessori.org. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call. It is very important that the lines of communication remain open.

Because P4 has so few new students, they will have regular class on Tuesday, October 14th.

COLUMBUS/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY



We will acknowledge the discovery of North and South America by the Europeans and discuss its impact on Monday, October 13th.

PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

Our second Parent Information Meeting of the year will be held Thursday, October 16th at 3:30 pm. We will be talking about the second year in the Montessori classroom. There will be a sign up sheet. Please let us know if you will be coming. We need a minimum of 8 people for the meeting to occur.

Childcare will be available upon request.
Cost is \$15.00 per hour/per child.

UNITED NATIONS DAY



Maria Montessori believed it was very important for even very young children to become aware that all people have similar needs, but may satisfy them in different ways, depending on what is available to them within their environment. She believed that imparting this information to children is essential if we are to evolve into a more accepting and peaceful species. For that reason, we include “Peoples of the World” and “Fundamental Needs of People” materials in our classrooms.

We also celebrate United Nations Day. Although all of us now live in the United States of America, and many of our families have done so for generations, all of the people presently living in North America, aside from Native Americans, originally came from a different continent and followed customs from different countries.

We will be acknowledging and enjoying the richness of this cultural diversity on United Nations Day, Friday, October 24th, at 10:30 am. Parents are welcome and are encouraged to join us.

The celebration will be at the San Jose Campus. Santa Clara children need to be dropped off directly at San Jose; Half Day and School Day students will be picked up there as well. We will organize carpooling to bring the Full Day children back to Santa Clara.



For United Nations Day, the children come to school

dressed in the traditional garb of the country of one of their ancestors. If you are having trouble coming up with a costume, please speak with us. We will help you. All of the children need to wear a special costume on United Nations Day. We will be learning songs, greetings, and phrases from each country that is represented.

We will also need music, pictures, and other ways to represent unique aspects of each country, so we need your help!!! See your child’s teacher if you have artifacts, pictures or other items to share.



We also need to know what food your child will be bringing for the feast following our celebration. There will be a sign up sheet in the reception area. Please indicate the name of the dish and the country of origin. Make enough for approximately ten people. Divide dishes into two serving portions.

All food should be brought to the San Jose campus. Please remember to put your name on your dishes and use a disposable dish if it does not need to be warmed up.

Please avoid dishes which require peanut or peanut derived ingredients due to serious allergies, label each dish as vegetarian or non-vegetarian, and note if it contains any nuts or nut products. There is a label attached to this newsletter which needs to be completed for ALL dishes brought to school.

If you can come and help us decorate and prepare for the meal on Friday morning or clean up afterwards, we would be very grateful. We will also need to borrow serving implements. **(Be sure to label all items brought to school.)** Let us know if you can be here on this special day.

HALLOWEEN



Pumpkin Patch: On Friday, October 31st, our Junior High students will organize a pumpkin patch for the Primary children, which will be held at the Santa Clara campus. The San Jose children will be transported by bus at 9:00 am and will return at 11:30 am in time for lunch.

The children will have special activities in the morning at the pumpkin patch, including holiday crafts, a Halloween Parade, jumping castle and a petting zoo. They will also be able to choose their own pumpkin to take home.

We will need donations of individually wrapped goodies: toys, rings, pencils, etc. There will be a sign-up sheet with the particulars in each classroom (Santa Clara) and in the lobby (San Jose) so that you can participate.

Please make sure to deliver all goods by Monday the 27th, so they can be prepared and brought to the Santa Clara site.



Costumes: The children and staff will be coming to school in costume. Halloween can be a lot of fun for children, as they love to dress up and make believe. However, it can sometimes be frightening for a child to see familiar people dressed so differently. We would like all the children to enjoy it this year, so we are including an outline of our celebration and some guidelines we have set up for their costumes. Because it is hard for children this age to wait, and because we want to be sure that the half-day children can participate, our celebration will be in the morning. The children should come to school in costume, but send a change of clothes if they stay all day as we will be changing back into our normal selves after the party.

When choosing a costume with your child, make sure that it is comfortable and allows for freedom of movement. Make sure that it does not limit or obscure their field of vision. We do not allow masks at school, as they often frighten the little ones and obscure vision. Weapons are also not permitted (even though they might seem to go with the costume), and will be confiscated. Costumes that are likely to promote violent or threatening behavior (i.e., Superman, Spiderman) are also not permitted. We also would like to avoid costumes of cartoon characters (i.e., Pocahontas, Belle). We cannot stress this strongly enough! If children come to school dressed in such costumes, we will remove them and give the children some other costume to wear. If you are having trouble coming up with non-violent costumes, come see us, we'll help! Be wary of those plastic costumes that tie around the neck; they tend to rip very easily, and if the cape gets caught on something, a child can choke.

RAIN BOOTS



The rainy season is coming soon. We would like all children to bring rain boots to school and

leave them at school. Do not forget to write your child's name very clearly.

HOT LUNCH



Santa Clara:

This September, we started a new lunch on Wednesdays.

We are now alternating Mac and Cheese and Bean Burritos. We will start serving burritos in October.

There will be 11 Hot Lunches for the HD1 and SD students:

3 Mondays – 5 Wednesdays (3 Burritos and 2 Mac and Cheese) – 3 Fridays.

There will be 12 Hot Lunches for the FD students:

4 Mondays – 5 Wednesdays (3 Burritos and 2 Mac and Cheese) – 3 Fridays.

San Jose:

Please note that we did not meet the minimum number of orders per day (30) to lower the price to \$3.50. The price will remain \$4.50 per day; however, if you order one full week of lunches, the cost is \$20 for the week. Our hot lunch provider also changed September's menu based on your feedback. Please let us know how your children liked the new choices.

LITTLETOES YOGA

LittleToes Yoga is a unique approach to integrative learning using yoga as a pathway. LittleToes Yoga honors the "whole child" by addressing their brain, body, mind and spirit and by creating a sense of connection to the world around them. Yoga integrates reading, storytelling, music, games, creative arts and earth care to educate the "whole child". This wonderful program sets the groundwork for meeting challenges and growing strong physically, mentally, and emotionally, and cultivating

self-esteem for a lifetime of successful achievement. Contact: Pallavi Tekriwal, 408-955-0225, tekriwal@gmail.com. Pallavi is one on our Montessori teachers at the San Jose Campus. She holds classes at the San Jose campus on Tuesdays from 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm. She is willing to offer the class to the Santa Clara students if there is enough interest. The class would probably be held on Wednesdays from 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm.

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION



THANK YOU

Santa Clara:

Thank you to the Tuttle family for the wonderful new sand, to the Sridhar family for lending the Monterey Bay Aquarium guest passes for our Junior High students, To the Purandare family for donating dolls and an Indian flag to Primary I, to the Iyer family for their donation in honor of Siddhanth's birthday.

San Jose:

Thank you to Jason Arndt for helping Roger build the playhouse and to Ajanae Edwards for loaning us a pickup truck to transport furniture for the new Junior High classroom.

We also thank Casey Wimsatt and Seth Keith for helping the office with our computer system and to Noriko Sakaguchi for folding the many paper cranes to help us acknowledge International Peace Day, and sewing the new tables cloths for P3.



Finally, we'd like to thank Lisa Farley for bringing the perfect treat for the September birthday celebrations.

NOVEMBER PREVIEW

Monday, November 10, 2008: Veterans' Day. No school. No daycare.

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 11 and 12, 2008:

Parent-Teacher conferences for returning students. No school. Daycare available for the Full Day students only.

Friday, November 14, 2008: Diwali celebration. Indian dancers: "Chitresh Das".

Thursday, November 20, 2008: North America Immersion Day.
Parent Information Meeting: The third year

(Kindergarten year) in the Montessori classroom.

Wednesday, November 26, 2008:

Thanksgiving Feast. Minimum Day, School ends at 12:00 pm. No daycare.

Thursday and Friday, November 27 and 28, 2008: Thanksgiving break. No school. No daycare.

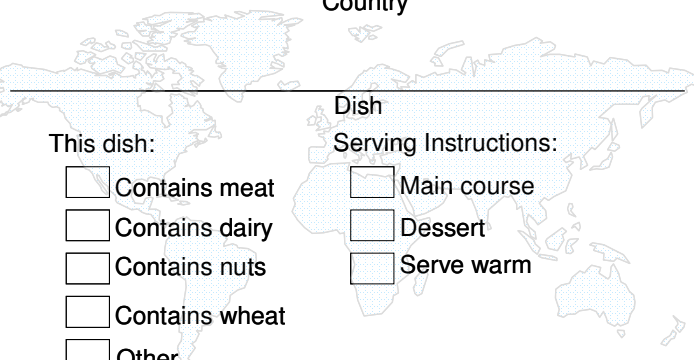
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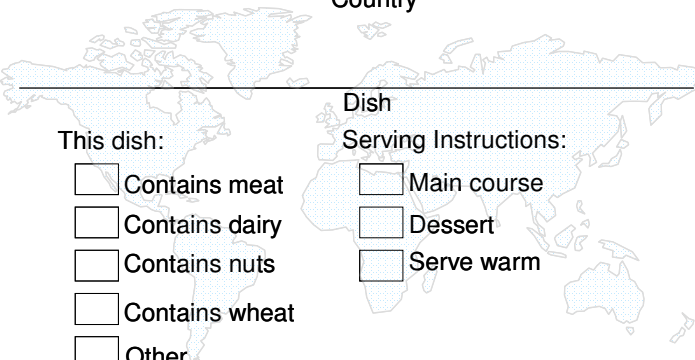
Aztec dancers.

"Native American Expression," presented by Gina Pacaldo. TBA.

Divide dish into two serving portions. Complete and attach to each dish.



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|--|--------------------------------------|
| Country _____ | |
|  | |
| This dish: | Dish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contains meat | Serving Instructions: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contains dairy | <input type="checkbox"/> Main course |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contains nuts | <input type="checkbox"/> Dessert |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contains wheat | <input type="checkbox"/> Serve warm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |
| Please return dish to: _____ | |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Country _____ | |
|  | |
| This dish: | Dish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contains meat | Serving Instructions: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contains dairy | <input type="checkbox"/> Main course |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contains nuts | <input type="checkbox"/> Dessert |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contains wheat | <input type="checkbox"/> Serve warm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |
| Please return dish to: _____ | |