Capitol Campus Class Notes

Redwood Class *September 16, 2011*

Ms. Elizabeth & Ms. Cathie

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General Information

Snack/Person of the Day next week:

Monday
Griffin
Tuesday
Claire
Wednesday
Mari
Thursday
Ethan
Friday
Desiree

Please remember to provide a snack that is:

- *Nutritious, with low or no sugar*
- *Vegetarian*
- *Washed and ready to serve (on plates)*
- *An adequate amount for 18 students*

Also, item for "Person of the Day" sharing should be ONE item that is EDUCATIONAL.

Dates to Remember

Recycling
Every Friday

September 29th
Peace Day Celebration
Spaghetti Feed
Noon

October 5
Field Trip—American River

October 19
Field Trip—High Hill Ranch
Camino
Drivers needed!

What have the students been doing?

The week began with a "bang," literally and figuratively. We began our week first thing Monday morning with the first Great Lesson: The Beginning of the Universe. There are five Great Lessons in the Montessori curriculum. They are about the "big ideas"—leading up to how we came to be here, in this moment, living on this planet. They create a formal, lasting impression for the students. The students learned a lot about particles, expansion, matter, heat, solids-liquid-gas, and how the earth formed. We talked about stars and planets, and the immense power that the universe has. We enjoyed watching our class volcano "explode" with baking soda and vinegar.

Students followed up with some research on different topics relating to the Great Lesson. They are also learning more about how to have a peaceful work time. We are up to a little over one hour of quiet, focused time, and I hope we will work up to our two hour block by the end of the month. We had several discussions about why the quiet is so important during the work time, and I observed the learning skyrocket as the students were very focused on their "neuron expanding" jobs. :)

Finally, we started learning a new peace song in preparation for International Peace Day next Wednesday.

—Ms. E

Wish list
Boxes of tissues

Binder paper

Small kids' shoes to practice buckles or laces

Work bench and kids' tools—
Nails, something to nail into, something to put screws into...

Donations toward a new, expensive Montessori material—a map cabinet

Nice square baskets for holding jobs
Small baskets for small things

Microscope