



Valley Quail Newsletter

Teachers: Ms. Debbie and Ms. Rachel

Date: October 7, 2011

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General Information

Please read page two for detailed information, especially with regard to conferences.

Wish List Items

Apples!

If you would like to donate apples (red, green or yellow), please e-mail me to let me know that you would like to contribute them to our apple tasting - just so that I don't run out and purchase them as well. I would like to have a total of 5 of each color.

Dates to Remember

October 10th

Governing Board Meeting
6:30 p.m. Elk Grove Campus

October 11th

Room Parent Meeting 6:00 p.m.

October 12th - 14th

11:45 Dismissal

Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences

Every Friday

Middle School Recycling
Please bring in your recycling to benefit the 7th and 8th grade fundraising

Curriculum and Instructions

What a week we had! On Wednesday we had the privilege of hearing Ms. Ladi's nephew, Pree Mayall play an Indian drum called a dhol. He is an internationally known dohl player and can be seen on his site preemayal.com. You need to check him out - amazing!

And what better way to end our week with a visit from the Bat Lady and her beautiful creatures! We made a list of what we wanted to know about bats and were on a mission to have our questions answered. Thank you to parents who helped the children enjoy our little winged mammals!

Next week we will study apples! We will dissect them, learn their parts, and then of course have apple tasting.

Lastly, we will start our study of Antarctica ... brrrrrr.



Miscellaneous

Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences

I am looking forward to meeting with everyone to discuss your child's growth so far and to communicate goals for this semester. It is a treat to be able to quietly sit with each of you. To make certain that we have our complete 20 minutes together, please do arrive on time, recognizing that if conferences begin late or run over, it impacts the rest of the conferences. I do leave 10 minutes in between conferences, which is reserved for readying paperwork for the next family, or simply taking a minute for a drink of water, etc.. **It is also preferable that children do not attend.** It is easier to speak in an open manner when children are not present. I do, however, encourage you to share with your child the successes that I will surely share with you. All the children have successes to be celebrated! Club Montessori will be available for 30 minutes during the conference time.

Parent Volunteer Tips

On October 25th, beginning at 5:00 p.m., Ms. Sierra and I would like to invite parents to attend a 'mini-workshop' on how to best serve the classroom when volunteering. We will demonstrate how to help the children with Rosetta Stone, as well as other opportunities to interact with the students. We want you to feel comfortable when you come to our classrooms and be familiar with some of the teaching philosophy that you will see, as well as maximize your time spent with us. Above all, we want you to enjoy your classroom experience as much as the children (and their teachers) do.

Thank You Person of the Week Families

A quick thank you to families who have sent in children with wonderful share items that are unique and special, great books, music, and nutritious and delicious snacks. The snacks in particular have been great - home-made muffins, hard-boiled eggs, cheeses, hummus, toasted pita chips, fresh vegetables and fruits - they have all been much appreciated.

