

**September 1, 2011**

**Welcome Back!**

**Calendar:**

**Tomorrow, September 2, Minimum Day, Noon Dismissal All Students, no childcare available**

**Monday, September 5, Labor Day, School Closed**

Saturday, September 10, MdTL Family BBQ at McNear's Beach in San Rafael, 11AM-2PM

Monday, September 12, Green Committee Meeting, 8:45AM, Room 8

Tuesday, September 13, Session I Afterschool Classes begin

Wednesday, September 21, International Peace Day

Friday, September 30, Picture Day (individual and class portraits)

Monday, October 3, Make-up Picture Day

Wednesday, October 5, Parent Ed Night, 5:30PM

**Friday, October 7, Emergency Preparedness Drill / Minimum Day, Noon Dismissal, no childcare**

**Minimum Day: TOMORROW**

Tomorrow is our first Minimum Day. All children will be dismissed at Noon and childcare is not available. Because the whole school will be picking up at the same time, we will have staff monitoring the parking lot to keep things moving as smoothly as possible. If the parking lot is full, we will have a staff member on the corner of Freitas and Del Ganado with a sign stating that the parking lot is full. Please park over in the Scotty's parking lot if this is the case.

**MdTL Family BBQ: Next Saturday**

We hope that your family can join us for a great day of friends, family, fun, and food at our Annual MdTL Family BBQ next Saturday, September 10, from 11AM – 2PM at McNear's Beach in San Rafael. We will provide organic chicken hot dogs, organic hamburgers and veggie burgers; also buns, condiments and water. We invite you to bring a dish to share, and if you would rather grill something other than hot dogs or hamburgers or enjoy a beverage other than water, please feel free to bring it. In the spirit of keeping green, we ask that families bring their own reusable plates, cups and silverware to minimize waste. A flier to RSVP was sent out in your summer packet. If you are able to attend, please RSVP by next Wednesday, September 7, either by returning the RSVP flier to the front office, or by emailing your family's hotdog, hamburger and/or veggie burger count to [kate@mdtl.org](mailto:kate@mdtl.org).

**Green Committee Meeting: Monday, September 12**

Calling all eccentric parents who are passionate about sustainability--or who simply like the dirt: Monday, September 12 the Green Committee will be holding our first meeting of the school year and we'd love for you to join us in Room 8 at 8:45AM. Kindly email [mdtlblog@gmail.com](mailto:mdtlblog@gmail.com) to let us know that you'll be in attendance, otherwise we may just be short on organic spelt and chia seed wild blueberry muffins!!

**Afterschool Programs: Begin Tuesday, September 13**

For this six-week session we are offering Art with Julie for our Elementary children on Tuesdays, and Science with Len for our 2nd and 3rd Year Primary children. Fliers were distributed to all eligible children yesterday. If you would like to register your child for Elementary Art or Primary Science, please return the registration form with payment to Kate in the front office.

**2010-2011 Yearbooks: Last chance to get yours!**

Have you been kicking yourself all summer for not ordering your very own spectacular 2010-2011 MdTL Yearbook, or wish you had purchased a copy for a sibling? Well this may just be your lucky day! We have 7 yearbooks available for \$35 each. Please see Kate in the front office if you would like to purchase one. Hurry, because once these sell out, they're gone!

**Clothing Swap:**

MdTL's Back to School Clothing Swap is just around the corner. Please save the slightly too small shoes, the outgrown swimsuits and the "I just can't look at it again" t-shirts for this one of a kind, fun for all, Free Clothing Swap extravaganza! All ages and sizes are welcome. Donations can be left under the Primary sign-in table. Kindly bag the items and write their size (ie. Boys 4-6) on the outside. More details to follow.

**eScrip:**

If you have not done so already, please sign up with eScrip by visiting [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). eScrip is a very easy way to raise funds for our school simply by registering your grocery, debit and credit cards. Merchants partnered with eScrip contribute a portion of purchases you make using your registered cards back to your chosen school (be sure to choose MdTL!). Our group ID is **136556140**. Each family can earn one volunteer hour for signing up with eScrip. If you have already signed up, thank you! Current eScrip members - don't forget to renew your Safeway Club Card, and make sure your registered cards are up to date on the eScrip site. If you have any questions about this program, please contact Julia Myers at [juliaannmyers@gmail.com](mailto:juliaannmyers@gmail.com).

**Birthday Basket:**

A strong sense of community has long been an important part of what makes MdTL such a special place. This year we will continue "The Birthday Basket", a tradition we began a couple years ago, that inspires caring and sharing. The idea is that when you or someone in your family is having a birthday, one way you can celebrate is to place a non-perishable food item in The Birthday Basket located in the front hall. When the basket is full, these items will be delivered to the Marin Community Food Bank where they will be distributed to families in need. This is optional and we will continue to participate in the Holiday Food Drive for the Marin Community Food Bank. For more information about the Marin Community Food Bank visit [www.marinfoodbank.org](http://www.marinfoodbank.org).

**Thank you!:**

- McKelvey Family and all of our parent and student volunteers who have worked so hard to lay the foundation for the MdTL/CPC shared garden.
- Don Lesser and Jaye Flynn for spearheading the Strategic Planning Committee's efforts and spending many long hours to successfully shepherd our new lease to completion.
- To all of the parents who volunteered during the August Work Party.
- Don Lesser and Maria Whitaker for hosting the New Parent Reception and Cheryl Jagoda for whipping up a scrumptious smorgasbord.
- Julian Chandlee, Uli Weeren and David Cullinan for helping with various maintenance projects over the summer.
- Janet Lipsey, MdTL alumni parent, who took 15 boxes of books to the Global Book Exchange on behalf of our school.