

September 29, 2011

**Calendar:**

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

Monday, October 3, Make-up Picture Day

Wednesday, October 5, MdTL Clothing Swap

Wednesday, October 5, Parent Ed Night, 5:30PM **\*\*Save the Date\*\***

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

Tuesday-Thursday, October 11-13, Upper Elementary Camping Trip to Samuel P. Taylor Park

Thursday, October 20, Wine and Cheese Book Fair Preview Night at Book Passage in Corte Madera, 6-7:30PM

**Friday, October 21, All School Conferences, No Classes**

Monday-Tuesday, October 24-25, MdTL Book Fair

Saturday, October 29, Halloween Festival, 10AM-12PM

**Picture Day: TOMORROW, September 30 (Make-up Picture Day Monday, October 3)**

Picture Day will take place TOMORROW, September 30. We will be taking both individual and class portraits. Order envelopes with proofs will be distributed a few weeks after Picture Day. Make-up Picture Day will take place this Monday, October 3, for children who are absent tomorrow.

**Fall Clothing Swap: Next Wednesday, October 5**

MdTL's Back to School Clothing Swap is next Wednesday, October 5! Please save the slightly too small shoes, the outgrown swimsuits, the "I just can't look at it again" t-shirts, and **new this year – Halloween costumes** for this one of a kind, fun for all, Free Clothing Swap extravaganza! All ages and sizes are welcome (including adult sizes). Donations can be left under the Primary sign-in table up until pick-up on Tuesday. Kindly bag the items and write their size (ie. Boys 4-6) on the outside. Volunteer sign-up sheets are on the sign-in tables to help set-up, staff and clean up the event. Please email Sarah Erdmann at [slugaric@comcast.net](mailto:slugaric@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

**Parent Education Night: Next Wednesday, October 5**

We invite all MdTL parents to join us next Wednesday, October 5, as we journey through the *Pathway through Language* from Primary through Elementary during our first Parent Education Night of the new school year. For our Pre-Primary and Primary parents, the evening will begin with a chance to mix and mingle during Tea Time with Teachers at 5:30, and then at 6:00, the Primary teachers will showcase the Primary Montessori Language Materials. The evening for our Elementary parents will begin at 6:15 with Tea Time with Elementary teachers, and then at 6:45 our Elementary teachers will showcase the Montessori Language Materials at the Elementary level. Our Pre-Primary and Primary parents will join Elementary at this time to continue the exploration of the Montessori Language Curriculum. Fliers with additional information were distributed yesterday. Childcare will be available for current MdTL students ages 3 and up. Space is very limited. Sign-up sheets to RSVP for the event and to sign up for childcare are on sign-in tables.

**Emergency Preparedness Drill: Next Friday, October 7**

Our annual Emergency Preparedness Drill will take place at pick-up next week on our Minimum Day, Friday, October 7 at 11:45AM. Information about the drill is now in mail folders. For those of you who signed up to volunteer for the drill, there will be a short orientation for you next Wednesday, October 5, after drop-off.

**MdTL Book Fair: Monday & Tuesday, October 24 & 25 (Wine & Cheese Preview at Book Passage October 20)**

This year, the MdTL Book Fair will be expanded to offer 200 new book titles for Primary thru Upper Elementary age students. We will kick off the Book Fair with a Wine & Cheese Parent Social and Preview at Book Passage in Corte Madera on Thursday, October 20.

To get a taste of the exciting books that will be offered at this year's Book Fair, enter to win one of three books being raffled off next week! Starting Monday, look for the raffle display on the sign-in tables and simply fill out a raffle ticket to enter to win. Winners will be announced via email next Friday, October 7.

**Annual Fund: Let's make our Annual Fund tree grow...**

We will officially kick off the 2011-2012 MdTL Annual Fund next month, though donations are gratefully accepted at any time of the year. The Annual Fund supports our school by bridging the gap between tuition income and expenses. Gifts to the Annual Fund directly support programming, Tuition Assistance, Art, and other annual expenses. You can donate online by clicking the "Just Give" button on our website, or you can pick up a donation form outside the front office. Many families also find it convenient to be billed on an installment basis for their donation. Simply email Karen Walls, Business Manager, at [Karen@mdtl.org](mailto:Karen@mdtl.org), with the dollar amount you want added to your tuition bill each month, as well as the number of monthly installments. The goal is 100% participation, with everyone making a donation that is meaningful to you and your family.

**Peace Day Food Donations:**

MdTL delivered 155 pounds of food to the Marin Community Food Bank as a result of the donations the children brought in celebration of International Peace Day last week. Thank you!!!

**Found:**

Found at the entrance of our parking lot: A white plastic "milk crate" filled with straps and chains used to tie down large items in a pickup truck. If this belongs to you, please email [kate@mdtl.org](mailto:kate@mdtl.org) to claim.

**Halloween Festival: Gently Used Books Needed**

We are beginning to plan for our annual Halloween Festival, which will be held on Saturday, October 29, 10AM-12PM. This year's theme, Ancient Civilizations, will take us on an exciting journey back through time! We are continuing in the tradition begun last year and will be offering books as prizes at the festival. Therefore, we are asking for the donation of any slightly used books that you may have at home. We are hoping to acquire books for all ages, Primary through Upper Elementary. Please drop off any book donations in the designated boxes located outside both the Upper or Lower Elementary classrooms. Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you at this year's festival!

**Thank you!:**

- Alex Bottmeyer for his beautiful construction of "Coco's Castle"! She sits on the tree trunk like it's her throne! The new grass was donated thanks to Laurin's neighbors Kathy and Joel. Thank you to Alex for trucking it over and putting it in place and keeping it watered with help from Jenn Bottmeyer and Julie Schachter.
- All of our parent drivers who drove on the Lower Elementary trip to Slide Ranch, and to all the parent volunteers who have driven this month on the various outings in both Lower and Upper Elementary.