



THE TUESDAY



November 25, 2008

Dear Mountain Oak Community,

There is lot to do for many families in the last months before a happy new year begins. Mountain Oak School has events in the month of December for our families to be aware of. One event, the **Tax Credit Drive** is vital for the health of the school. Everyone has received a packet that has information in it regarding the Arizona Tax Credit program. Please take a moment to read over the letter and brochures. The tax credit money that you bring in for the school pays for the specialty classes and more like; music, handwork, 8th grade class trip, it enables us to provide teachers for the positions of games, handwork, music. If every family brings in one tax credit it will give the school \$60,000. Please help your child's school be the best it can be.

Many of you have asked for the opportunity to experience Eurythmy. Andrew will be teaching a **Eurythmy class for parents on, Tuesday, December 9 at 4:30pm**. Following the Eurthymy there will be a presentation by a visiting Waldorf guest. Watch for details on what will be presented in the next Tuesday. This is a wonderful opportunity to better your understanding of your child's education in the Waldorf stream.


May your Thanksgiving be cozy and warm,

Cindy Roe



Read All About It...

- ▼ **THANKSGIVING— No School Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, 11/26—11/28. Have a Wonderful Holiday.**
 - ▼ **VOLUNTEER NEEDED!** If you have the ability to convert VHS to DVD, we need you! Please contact Beni in the Office for more details: 541-7700.
 - ▼ Mark your calendar for the **Mountain Oak Annual Holiday Bash!** Saturday, December 13 from 5:00 to 7:00 at the Healing Arts building on Miller Valley across from the Post Office. This year we will dine potluck style and childcare will be provided by the 7th graders. Look for the sign up sheet in next week's Tuesday!
 - ▼ **PLASTIC BAGS WANTED!** The 7th Grade is collecting all plastic bags. Please bring your plastic bags to the 7th grade classroom **throughout the school year.**
 - ▼ **SCHOOL DIRECTORIES will be going home this week! If you didn't get one, see Beni in the Office.**
 - ▼ **Parent Teacher Conferences** are next week. Come in or call the office to schedule (541-7700). Student Progress Reports will be handed out during conferences. **Please note Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are early release days: dismissal is at 12:30pm.**
 - ▼ **For Rent** Studio next door to the school, \$300 + Part of Utilities. Call Tony Himes 848-1111
- Your chance to get caught up for the holidays!!** Announcing the next of our Parent's Night Out events, December 12th from 6-9pm. You can spend the evening enjoying one of the wonderful entertainment events for Aker night or catch up on your holiday shopping. The possibilities are endless! For the low price of \$12.00 for 1 child or \$15.00 for 2 we will be offering childcare at the school. This price is for the entire evening and includes a pizza dinner with special options available for those with unique dietary needs. Please RSVP in the office if you are planning on taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity. Also, if you would like to help be a volunteer for the next Parent's Night Out, and have a chance to earn hours as part of your parent contract, please let me know: Anna Carnegie Marx 499-9379





November/December 2008



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
23	24	25 <i>Today</i>	26 Thanksgiving Break - No School	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
December	1	2 Parent Teacher Conferences- Call to Schedule Early Dismissal 12:30 for 1st thru 8th grades	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Acker Music Festival	13 MOS Annual Holiday Party!
14	15	16	17	18 Walk Thru the Grades (RSVP)	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	
Winter Break - No School - Have a Wonderful Holiday - See you on Monday 1/5/09						

Early Childhood Development Notes:

Natural toys nurture and awaken senses to different textures, weights, smells, qualities. Tree branches and other simple toys leave room for the child's own imagination; they are not too formed already. Star Wars action toys, for instance, will limit the imagination; it's harder to inwardly transform that kind of toy into a phone or a hairbrush, or a boat, for instance.

Imagination is at its peak at age 5 and needs to be exercised. Benefits of imagination include self-regulation, creative thinking, and pre-reading skills to convert the abstract symbol of a letter into a word that has meaning. Spatial Orientation is developed through the movement in play, especially when children can use big and heavy furniture, stumps, etc. They move their whole bodies to play, peeking under the bridge, climb on the play-stand, jumping down, crawling through tunnels, etc. Their sense of balance via the vestibular (inner ear) is being stimulated and developed this way. They feel their bodies in space through movement and are building the foundation for their brain and higher order thinking.

Children learn through play to take turns, they learn the give and take of social life, being a leader or a follower, being able to include others in their play (especially when that is modeled by an adult), and speech is exercised and developed in this natural way through play.

Developmental Phases of Play: 3-4 yr. parallel play alongside peers or adult who is working near them. They are imitating the adults' movements and gestures and "playing" around with them. Age 5- Child plays with imagination and is more social, re-creating scenes from his experiences in his life, most of his play is stimulated from what he sees. Age 6-7 Child gets an idea in mind before playing it out, play is now purposeful, child can continue his play for many days, showing he can hold an inner image (this is essential for learning letters in first grade which is done over a few days- a new form of memory is developed), child may talk out his play and not need props.

Tuesday Newsletter submissions due by email mtnoak@cablone.net no later than Friday.