



## Monte Tavor Newsletter

### The End of One Year, the Beginning of Another

While the school year is concluding with the Graduation and Preschool Dance Event, the next one starts with the Welcome Back Party! Graduates will be moving onto a new phase in their lives with an entirely new set of adventures waiting for them. Meanwhile, the rest of the students of Monte Tavor will experience more of our upcoming events. Check out our website for all these events listed within the Monte Tavor calendar or refer to the second page of this Newsletter.

### Previous Events/Activities

The children at Monte Tavor had the chance to see animals, and we do not mean the ones they read during story time with the teachers. But Monte Tavor was excited to open doors to Wildcare! They provided an excellent presentation for our children here at Monte Tavor with the hopes of educating the children on how owls, bobcats, frogs, and other animals see and feel like. They educate the kids by presenting them real-life animal figures in a taxidermy manner, so the children can see and feel them. None of these animals are alive, so the children are safe; while they are having fun and learning about all of these new and wondrous things! Not long after, the children also had the chance to experience the rural adventures of the Ardenwood Historic Farm, where the children got to see many farm animals such as lambs, goats, sheep, and bunnies. There were also a couple of chickens roaming around where the children could gaze upon. When the kids were not riding the train around the farm, playing Frisbee or other outdoor activities in the vast open space, they and their parents were enjoying smoky and succulent barbecue that Monte Tavor provided and the delicious foods that generous parents brought. Short after the Ardenwood visit children, teachers, parents and staff prepared the 2016 dance and graduation ceremony. During that time the families and staff got to say goodbye to the leaving graduates and got to celebrate the ceremony with a gathering, where the families reunited for a potluck, enjoyed the music, BBQ and the dance performance of the children.

### Upcoming Events for the New School Year

With the upcoming events during the new school year, Monte Tavor will have a warm welcome for the returning students and the newly arriving students. Such events include the Welcome Back Party, Fall Science Fair, Cultural Event Activities, Family Cultural Event/Pot Luck, and more!

The welcome back party is a great opportunity for our staff, friends, families, and newcomers to come together. This gathering will help ease the new students and parents into a welcoming arena of our educational program. We highly encourage each family to attend the welcome back party as we take that time to celebrate a wonderful upcoming school year and get to bond with our fellow peers and new families.

### SmartCare and Billing System Summary Overview

It is necessary that you check your SmartCare app daily to check for any notifications that we may send about your child. This app is one of the ways for us to communicate to you about your child's updates, reminders, and in case major disaster emergencies!

You are now able to view your billing account and statement along with other information in the SmartCare app or from any computer by clicking on the "Parent log in" at [www.smartcare.com](http://www.smartcare.com).

Payments continue to be due every Monday in advance, but families may choose to pay as many weeks in advance as desire. If you do choose to pay weeks in advance, you will still receive weekly summaries of your bill that reflect any remaining credit with a negative balance. We will happily assist those requiring additional help. Please remember to log out of your mobile device from the settings tab and log back in if you ever encounter a "QR code error" message, to reflect a change SmartCare or Monte Tavor have recently made, or to correct any minor app issue.

### Drop off and Pick up Information

As a precaution, we ask that parents no longer allow children to play anywhere located between the exits and sidewalk. The front steps of 3520-3512 are very steep and the areas covered in woodchips are slippery as well as dangerous, especially for young children of all ages. Please refrain from letting your child or children play in the aforementioned unsafe areas.

### Prohibited Parking

Lastly, a reminder about prohibited parking. Please refer to our previous email for additional information. Main points are as follows: Undivided attention and awareness while maneuvering through Laguna Avenue. No more obstructing any part of the sidewalk to park. No more parking in ANY driveway. BLOCKING the driveway of 3520 Laguna will no longer be permitted. Parking (parallel to street) permitted ONLY at 3516 Laguna as long as you are considerate to others (time-wise), when you drop off or pick up, and if no other parking presents itself.

### Next Year's Graduates Core Program Meeting

Parents, as you may know already, Monte Tavor will be holding a Core program meeting for next year's graduates. It is crucial to make plans ahead of time for the children, in order to accommodate them better in their school year. This process is done depending on the child's age. If the child's birthday falls between the dates of August 2011 to August 2012, the child will be able to attend Kindergarten in September of 2017, after the Monte Tavor graduation, as the child will be five years of age. If your child's birthday falls from September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012 to December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012, your child will have the option of attending transitional kindergartener also known as "TK" or they have the choice of staying for an additional year at Monte Tavor and doing their TK with us. The Core meeting will be held at Monte Tavor @ 5:00pm on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016. Birthdates attending 8/1/2011-12/3/2012.

### Important Reminder!

It is crucial that payments, pickups and arrivals are met on time. Make sure you confirm or check your hours of attendance. Contractual fees will be enforced for late weekly tuition payments, late pickups, and early arrivals starting next week August 8, 2016.

We ask that you make sure that your child has the correct schedule of 7:00am-5:00pm, 7:30am-5:30pm, 8:00am-6:00pm or extended 7:00-6:00 pm, according to your contract and tuition agreement. We also want to remind everyone that payments through the new system SmartCare, made with a Debit/Credit, undergo a fee of 2.75% applied to each payment charged by SmartCare. ACH transactions using your bank account are free-of-charge. We highly encourage everyone to meet this criteria to avoid any additional charges by SmartCare.

### New Monte Tavor Email Address

Monte Tavor will no longer use the email address of [hmontetavor@aol.com](mailto:hmontetavor@aol.com). We will now communicate through our other email address of [montetavorpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:montetavorpreschool@gmail.com). Through our means of communication, we encourage everyone to check their email for important notices, newsletters and reminders; together with the app for daily notifications, updates, and pictures. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Monte Tavor. The contact information will be shown below.

### Welcome to Monte Tavor New Students!

Monte Tavor would like to welcome the new students joining us in August. We have been anticipating their arrival with great joy and excitement! We would like to give a special welcome to the children and families who will soon be joining the Monte Tavor family and become our new friends, peers and family. We are looking forward to forming a bond and being part of your children's lives and every one and each of the families. A special welcome goes to the children and families of: Ayla Arkin-Benn, Ismael Boigues, Izel Darrah, Hudson Hopkins, Vivibeth Hutchinson, Isaiah Isakow, Madeline Kearney, Conner Langland, Charlotte McCants, Poppy McClune, Caleb Meyer, Leila Salgado, Kaia Uno-Chen, Whitney Quiter, Lola Tenorio-Metz, and Soren Vance.

### Invitation to Monte Tavor's Welcome Back Party!

Monte Tavor will be hosting a Welcome Back Party for the returning and new families of Monte Tavor on Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm at 3520 Laguna Avenue. We hope each and every one of you are able to make it to this event. This will be a great opportunity to have the families bond and get to know each other. We hope to see you there and celebrate our last event at this location!

**DAYS CLOSED and Events**

- *Tomorrow August 5, Welcome Back Party! Join us!! 4:30-5:30pm*
- *August 6, Teacher's Training*
- *CLOSED September 5 Labor Day*
- *September 16, Fall Science Fair 4:00-5:30pm. Join us!!!*
- *September 17, Teacher's Training Day*
- *September 22, Autumn Begins! Children can bring fall items to decorate and celebrate harvest (pumpkins, Indian corn, posters, stickers, etc.) Parents are welcome to join us decorate the front entrance with art fall displays, one to two parents can volunteer on this event. 9:00am on Wednesday September 28, 2016.*
- *September 23, Next Year's Graduates Core Program Meeting at 5:00pm*
- *October 5, Cultural Event Activities. Parents are welcome to share, plan and prepare an activity for their child's class from 9:00-9:30 am. Every class can have 1-2 parents participating*

- *October 7, Family Cultural Event / Pot Luck*

**Conference Times**

- *October 24-28*
  - AM: 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30
  - PM: 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00
- *October 22, Teacher's Training*
- *October 24-28 Dress up week. All children are welcome to bring their costumes daily during this week. Join us on Friday, October 28, 2016 at 10:00 am for a mini parade. Parents remember to dress up for this event!*

**Monte Tavor's Contact information**

You can always reach us 24 hours/7 days a week at

[montetavorpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:montetavorpreschool@gmail.com)

During business hours 7:00-6:00 pm  
(510) 967-2876 Cell Line

During non-business hours or leave messages  
(510) 531-3328 General Line

Website [www.montetavor.com](http://www.montetavor.com)

**Thank You Families!**

Thank you for allowing us to be part of your child's life and discovery years and we thank you for the continued support of our programs.