



# Hilltop preschool



Learning With Love

## Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 2, August 2010



Summer School Scenes



### **Orientation to Classroom Mechanics-Mandatory for all Working parents!!!**

Classroom Mechanics will be held Friday, September 3rd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This session is **mandatory for all parents who will be working in the classrooms**. You will learn the workstations and duties of the classrooms.

You will learn about the Housekeeping Position, Art and Dramatic Play Position and the Outside Position. Each one has unique duties and responsibilities to help make the day run smoothly. There are also setup duties and end of the day checklists to help prepare for the next shift of parents for the following school day.

Children are **NOT allowed** at this session so we can truly concentrate on all the material.

### **Hilltop Philosophy- Mandatory for ALL Hilltop families!**

Philosophy and Parent In-Service will be held on Thursday, September 9th also from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This session is **mandatory for all Hilltop families**: new, returning, Seeds, Sprouts, Blooms and Blossoms, everyone.

For the new families, you'll be introduced to the Parent Effectiveness Training Book (also referred to as P.E.T.). You'll learn how to interact with the students using these techniques to best facilitate their learning. For the returning families, this is a great opportunity to review the material and share your experiences at Hilltop.

Once again, children are **NOT allowed** in this session. We cover a lot of information!

### **In this Issue**

- What to expect at Orientation Day
- What to expect at Philosophy Day
- Auction Updates-Look at the GREEN folder you received on Registration day!
- Journal reminder
- Changes underway at Hilltop

### **Important Dates**

- August 28, Sat., Clean up Day 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- September 3rd, Friday **MANDATORY for all parents working in the classroom**: Classroom Mechanics 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- September 9th, Thursday, **MANDATORY for all parents of Hilltop**. Philosophy Day 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- September 13th, Monday-First Day of School!
- Sept. 15th, Wed., First **Mandatory** General Meeting. All families are required to attend 7-9 p.m.
- Sept. 25, Sat., Clean up day 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- September 28th, Tuesday, Restaurant Fundraiser Night at BJ's Pizza.

### **RED Buckets**

If your child is in Seeds or Sprouts, you should have received a red bucket on registration day. You will bring this bucket daily to school and **ALSO** take it home with you. What goes inside? Changes of clothes, jackets, extra shoes, socks, underwear, etc. Anything that will be needed in case your child needs a change of clothes. You can personalize the bucket with your child and make it a fun project to complete together!

### **Vinyl Tote Bags**

If your child is in Blooms or Blossoms, you should have received a tote bag. This too can be personalized to your child's liking. It will fit all the same items as above. The only difference is that this bag will **STAY** at school & hang in the bathroom.

# Hilltop Preschool Newsletter

## Auction 2010-Get ready for Ready, Set, Grow!

Fundraising is a vital component of Hilltop's operating budget. Our biggest fundraiser of the year is our annual auction, and we need your help to make the event a success!

This year's auction theme is Ready, Set, Grow! The night will feature dinner, music, & our famous live & silent auctions!

Here is how you can help to make our auction a success:

1. Save the date on your calendar right now: Friday, November 12 from 6-10 p.m. Secure a babysitter, as this event is adults only!
2. Sell at least 4 tickets per family (\$30 per ticket). Sell more if you can!
3. Sell at least 25 tickets for our 50/50 raffle (\$1 per ticket). The more you sell, the bigger the prize! Winner does not need to be present, so this is a great item to sell to co-workers or out of town relatives.
4. Collect donations worth \$150 or more.

### Some of the auction items we've already received!

- Laker tickets!
- A private tour of an airline jet hangar, including lunch provided by a Le Courdon Bleu Chef.
- A wine tour and tasting for 4 adults at Callaway Vineyards.
- A coveted parking spot in the PLAVAN lot...Mary Banks won this last year. It's a GREAT item!
- A Family Membership to the Laguna Arts Museum
- A family or individual sitting and 16x20 wall portrait on canvas from Bradford Renaissance Portraits



### Auction donations-We need your help!

One of the key components to our annual fundraising auction are the exciting donations that our families collect. We recommend starting soon to get a jump start on donations. It is a thrill when you start getting items! Once you get some donations you'll see just how easy it is to ask! Here are some ideas for finding donations to help make our auction a success!

- Donations can be merchandise or gift certificates from local stores or restaurants.
- Donations can also be services from people you know, like haircuts, pedicures, massages, housekeepers, personal trainers, etc.
- Is there a bakery or a coffee shop that you frequent? A business that you use year after year for parties?
- Do you know anyone with season tickets to sporting events? Do you know someone who collects wine, who would be willing to donate a nice bottle to auction off?
- Does anyone you know have a vacation home that can be used for a week or weekend getaway? How about a harbor cruise on a boat or Duffy?
- Is there a service you can offer, such as: Can you cook? (You can offer to make a meal for a family or teach a 'how to' class!) Are you a talented photographer? How about an avid gardener? (You could set up someone's spring/summer vegetable garden!) How about babysitting? We all have kids!

Donation letters are included in the **GREEN auction packet** you received on Registration Day. (If you have not yet received your packet, additional packets will be available at Orientation Day and Philosophy Day.) Additional forms can be found on the Yahoo groups site and will be available at school as well.



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## Reminder of your Child's Journal

You will need to purchase a "Clear view" 1" three ring binder in plain black or white this is the kind which has a clear plastic sheet on the front cover. You should be able to find it easily at Staples or Office Depot.

This is a journal for your child but it is a family journal. This journal allows the child to explore along with you, their peers and with us. You may use whatever medium you like. You and your child may use whatever paper feels right to you as long as it fits in the journal. You and your child may use paint, collage with magazines or photos, you may draw or write words or write the words of your child. Get creative and explore the ideas together. Enjoy this opportunity to spend time together.

We would love it if you answered these questions as well. It will give your child a greater perspective on connections and family and being in relationship.

We will periodically send home new questions that may or may not be unique to your class. Each class will take the all school intention where the children lead us as we set this intention to inspire.

We would like them to begin to understand the concept of "in relationship to" and yet we know that they are not necessarily there yet. So, one idea of how to do this is to ask that question first and then ask another more easily understood question. There will be some sample questions provided along with each one.

**1st Question:** Who am I in relationship to summer?"

"It is summer – What did you like about today?"

"Summer is warm – what do you like to do when it is warm?"

"We get to visit people and places in the summer – Who did we visit with?"



**2nd Question:** "Who am I in relationship to my family?"

We suggest asking the question first and then perhaps asking questions such as –

"Who is the youngest in our family?"

"Who is your sister/brother/grandmother?"

For the older children – you might simply ask

"What is your place in the family?"



**Who knows what amazing words will spill forth!**

## Some changes underway at Hilltop!

We will soon have an 8' x 20' storage container located next to Hilltop on the Plavan campus. This will allow us to empty all the current sheds and recreate them for various uses. The larger shed will soon become our "atelier" or art studio, it will fit 4-6 people working in small groups. The shed next to the atelier (currently the garage shed) will serve as our "dramatic play" center. It will be equipped with mirrors, racks for clothes and props. And finally the back shed will be the loose parts/woodworking shed children will have access to real hand tools, wood, nails, screws, recycled materials and found materials. So exciting! Keep an eye out in yahoo groups for opportunities to help us build. Some of the things we will need built are: a small stage so the children can act & play, a wood working bench, storage racks, storage system for loose parts, clothes rack and possibly more.

