

Mountain Home School Charter

October 2011 News



Hello Families!

We hope you are finally feeling settled and have the materials you need to instruct your students for a successful homeschooling experience! Classes are now in full swing as evidenced by our congested parking lot on Tuesdays and Thursdays! Staff is trying to lessen this impact by parking up the hill at the dirt lot on class days. If you end up needing to park outside our lot, please do not park in front of, or too close to, the mailboxes on Rocky Cut Road as residents of the area get upset when they can't easily get their mail! This congestion also leads us to once again remind you about safety by:

- ◆ Driving cautiously into our parking lot.
- ◆ Students are not to run, bicycle, roller skate, or skateboard anywhere in the building or on premises.
- ◆ Students are never permitted to play behind or below the buildings.
- ◆ Students are never permitted to bring weapons of any type to Mountain Home, including pocket knives.
- ◆ It is your responsibility to supervise your own children when they are not in class.

Looking for a “quiet” corner to work on Tuesdays or Thursdays? We certainly wish we had an available area for you but with the classroom spaces occupied, we aren't able to offer you this. Weather permitting, we do have 3 outside picnic tables available, located in the back of the building, and 2 additional tables on the front porch. This should provide some help.

Speaking of our busy class days, we ask that you try to **help us keep the noise level down in the building while classes are in session by using a quieter voice and helping your toddlers use quiet voices.** This will really assist students to hear the teacher when they are in class. Thank you for your help in this manner!

Finally, more information will be coming your way soon about upcoming parent workshops. The workshops will be open to all parents but in particular, we want to assist those whose child is struggling academically. As a school, we have a responsibility to ensure that students are demonstrating progress and our desire is to help make homeschooling the best it can be for you and your children.

Until then, happy homeschooling and let us know how we can help you!

In This Issue:

Attendance #2 is due:	Friday, October 7
8th Grade Meeting	Thursday, October 6
Big Fresno Fair Education Program	Friday, October 7
Pumpkin Patch Field Trip	Friday, October 28
Compass Learning Odyssey Follow-Up Meeting:	Friday, October 28

October Break—School Closed from October 17th ~ October 21st

The Emperor's New Clothes—Play	Wednesday, November 2
WSCS Board Meeting	Wednesday, November 9
Hillmar Cheese Factory Field Trip:	Wednesday, November 16
International Expo Day:	Friday, November 18
Ellis Island—Play	Wednesday, May 9

Field Trips

BIG FRESNO FAIR EDUCATION PROGRAM

A field trip is being planned to attend the Big Fresno Fair on Friday, October 7. The purpose of the trip is to educate children about the agricultural production in the Central Valley. Materials for preparing the children are available on line. Please sign up on the field trip bulletin board if you are interested. List all who will attend, pre-school children to adults. Children will attend free. There may be a cost for adults.

See the bulletin board for more information or talk to me, Susan Mackenzie at 642-1422 ext. 14.

Pumpkin Patch

Who: Geared for Primary Grades. (Perfect for family groups)
Where: Bear Creek Pumpkin Patch – Planada (Approximate travel time 1hour & 15 minutes)
Cost: \$3.00 each per child & parent
When: Friday, October 28th @ 11:00 (We will leave @ 9:30)
Contact: Kathi Bales Ext. 12



Hilmar Cheese Factory

Who: All Grades, (Perfect for family groups)
Where: Hilmar Cheese Factory-(Travel time 1 hour & 40 minutes)
Cost: \$3:00 per child, (parents & teachers free)
When: Wednesday, November 16th @ 12:30. (We will leave @ 9:30 so that we can have a picnic , or café lunch prior to lining up for the tour.)
Contact: Kathi Bales Ext. 12

PLAYS

The Emperor's New Clothes

Who: Kindergarten-5th & their families
Where: Tower Theater
When: Wednesday, November 2, 2011
Time: 10:45 am
Cost: \$5.50 per seat
Contact: Susan Mackenzie Ext. 14

Ellis Island

What: Ellis Island, Coming to America
Who: Third through Eighth Grade (*sorry that this will conflict with 8th graders on their Catalina trip)
When: Wednesday, May 9th @ 10:00 (arrive @ 9:30)
Where: Tower Theater
Cost: \$7.95 (If paid prior to October 11th) \$9.95 after that.
***Please sign up and pay as soon as possible **Contact:** Kathi Bales Ext. 12

Classes / Events

Music, Movement & More Kindergarten Class 2011 - 2012

Meets: Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11:45

It's not too late to sign up. Call Susan 642-1422 ext. 14 with questions

Music, Movement & More First Grade Class 2011 - 2012

Meets: Tuesdays, 12:30 - 2:00

It's not too late to sign up. Call Kathi 642-1422 ext. 12 with questions

Book Club

There is still time to join the fun.



3rd/4th grade club met Thursday, September 15th and made seven great selections. They next meet on October 13th. 5th/6th grade club will meet Thursday, September 22nd. 7th/8th grade will meet on Tuesday, September 27th. We will meet from 3:00- 4:00. Call Kathi @ 642-1422 # 12 if you wish to join or have questions.

International Expo Day!

Friday, November 18th from 10:30-12:30

Join the fun while learning about a foreign country. Come share what you've learned about the country you are studying! You can sign up as a family for one country, or individual students can sign up for their own country.

Come in costume!



Share a food!

Make geography a part of your family fun time!

Important Information

8th Grade News

The nonrefundable \$50 deposit for Catalina Island Marine Institute is due by Friday, Oct. 7. Also due this day is the Flower Power money and order forms. The next 8th grade meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 6 from 11:45-12:30. Don't forget to bring an ice cream topping!

Mosaic Class

Don't forget that the Mosaic Class begins on Tuesday, October 25 at 12:30. Please make an appointment with me before October 14th to review your design for this project. All 8th graders are invited to participate. You must bring a 12x14" board to the first class (or one approximately that size.) Call Joanie 642-1422 ext. 13.

Attention Compass Learning Odyssey Users:

We currently have 50 students using this online curriculum program and while the majority seem happy with the program, there are continual learning challenges for staff and users alike! We are trying to iron out the kinks as they are presented to us such as: "How much time should my child devote to math? How does my child retake a quiz if I want him/her to redo it? How do I print out work samples?" "Why isn't there spelling for my child?" (there is!) If you relate with any of these common questions & concerns, we'd like to invite you to a parent meeting to address these questions and any others you may have! Oftentimes, hearing how other parents are navigating the program can be a great source of encouragement and problem-solving.

We hope you join us for a casual "sharing of ideas" meeting on Friday, October 28th at 10:00 am @ MHS! RSVP to Mindy if you'll be able to join us! 642-1422 ext. 15 or mhsmindy@hotmail.com

STAY INFORMED

Don't miss out on announcements for our schools. There are many ways you can remain informed. By going to www.mountainhomecharter.org or www.glacierhighcharter.org you will find our current calendar of events and classes, important announcements, and our monthly newsletters.

NEW FEATURE

If you do not regularly check the school website, we have added a new feature to help you stay better informed. By entering your email address at <http://mountainhomeimportant.blogspot.com/> you will be instantly emailed every time there is an important announcement for your school. We highly recommend taking advantage of this feature because there are times when an announcement does not make it into a newsletter.

FACEBOOK

Mountain Home is now on Facebook. In addition to staying informed about important announcements, you can follow discussions, take part in surveys, and respond to events. "Like" our page at: <http://www.facebook.com/MountainHomeSchool>

As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact your charter teacher.

OAKHURST BRANCH LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2011 WINNERS

Congratulations to Stephen Huckabone who read 4,140 minutes and won 1st Place for The 3rd Grade through 5th Grade, and to Rylie Sullivan coming in 3rd in the 6th Grade through 12th Grade division of the 2011 Oakhurst Branch Library Summer Reading Program.

LIBRARY STORYTIME

Storytime is held every Tuesday from 2:15-3:15 p.m. for Kindergarten through 2nd grade.

In keeping with the "Around the World in 180 Days" theme, most stories will be about a country. But, in November, the California Young Reader Medal nominated books will be read. At the end of the 5 weeks, the children will vote for their favorite book. This is always a favorite with the students.

For additional information, please contact Diane Kraft.

Parents,

Please help our school by making sure your children pick up after themselves when they are done playing in the playroom. This area has really gotten out of control, especially on our class days. We want this room to be an enjoyable and safe environment for all the children!

We appreciate your attention and help!

The next Western Sierra Charter Schools Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 9 at 3:00 pm. This is Mountain Home & Glacier High School Charter's governing Board made up of parents, staff, & community members.

Parents, you are always welcome to attend!

Contacts

To contact a staff member by phone, dial 559-642-1422 and press the extension number for the person you need.

Executive Director

Michael Cox Ext. 11

Principal/Charter Teacher

Mindy Klang Ext. 15

Secretary

Melissa Napier Ext. 10

Librarian

Diane Kraft Ext. 22

Custodian

Mike Lamb Ext. 23

Charter Teachers

Kathi Bales Ext. 12

Skip Bullock Ext. 16

Joanne Cable Ext. 30

Eric Hagen Ext. 20

Susan Mackenzie Ext. 14

Joanie Madaus Ext. 13

Kim Meeks Ext. 19

Bill Shennan Ext. 27

Sylvia Sloas Ext. 18

Marcia Souza Ext.

Speech & Lang. Specialist

Sharon Miller Ext. 32



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