



SKYLINE OUTDOORS

Monte Tavor Newsletter

A Spanish Immersion experience for children.

IN THIS ISSUE NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2017

New Beginnings at Skyline

by Yeira Howell

After a longer than usual waiting period, which felt like an eternity, new beginnings are finally taking place at Skyline. With each day that passes this site begins to feel more and more like a part of Monte Tavor. For the past two weeks children have had the opportunity to enjoy some of the outdoor equipment and play structure. They climbed the step spider wall, rode tricycles on the deck, played with balls in the grass areas, and had a blast playing on La Bajada (A paved slope where children can run free to the other extreme of the property.) The gardening area served as entertainment as children went up the wooden steps in order to help water the plants. In addition, children also enjoyed picking sweet and aromatic apples, rode on a wagon and wore their favorite dress up costumes during "dress up week".

Children from of all three age groups attend Skyline; infants, toddlers and preschoolers. One new young infant was the center of attention as he was taken on stroller rides through the outdoors, participated in the music and movement activities, and was joined by older children while he played with sensory toys, musical toys and xylophones. Each day, toddlers and preschoolers have been slowly adjusting to their new site,

schedules and activities. The dress up and dramatic play area theme was taken outdoors on the deck. The music and movement activities took place in the library/music room as well as the indoor open space. During the warmer week, children took their art and journaling activities outdoors, and ate their lunch and snacks on the sunny areas of the deck.

Transition went very well for new children and former Laguna students. Skyline is now a new special place for children, the Laguna site continues to be wonderful and amazing!

[Check out the Pictures](#)

View our web galleries from time to time for more pictures from both sites. Check out the parents' app for group or individual pictures this upcoming week!!

[Photo Gallery](#)



[Looking for Bugs](#)

Sunny fall afternoon, children are looking for insects in the grassy areas and under the pine trees. They spotted ants, pine cones, and birds eating at the feeders.

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[Playing at the Play Structure](#)

Children had hours of play in the mornings, afternoons, and throughout the week at the play structure.

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Dress Up Parade

by Yeira Howell

On Halloween, children, parents, grandparents and teachers gathered together to accompany children on their annual Dress Up Fall Parade which took place on Laguna Avenue. Children had an amazing time showing off their costumes. There were book and television characters, super heroes, animal, ghosts, and princesses.

It was an exciting morning filled with smiles and laughter.

Parents took pictures and videos while they accompanied their children on the walk to the corner of Madeline and then back to the school.

Unfortunately some of the younger children did not realize that their parents would soon leave after the parade and had a tough time saying good bye. We continued the celebration by taking pictures by the fall harvest dramatic play theme area around the Oak tree, which many of you helped decorate with pumpkins and Indian corn,



friendly ghosts and skulls. For more details look at our web picture galleries or events.

We ended the celebration by having the children discuss their outfits in their respective groups. Children could not wait for their parents to pick them up and go trick-or-treating later that evening.

We would like to continue with the next fall theme which would be Apple Orchard. Apples, baskets, Apple ciders, organic 100% apple juice, and books about apples are needed for decorations at both sites.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

It was great to see all the parents and a grandparents who participated during dress up parade. It was greatly appreciated!!

PARENTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO SHARE SOME OF THE PICTURES TAKEN WITH FAMILIES WHO COULD NOT ATTEND THIS FUN EVENT MAY TEXT OR E-MAIL THEM.
(510) 967-2876



Fall festivities and Dia de los Muertos celebration was a wonderful opportunity for children to learn about different cultural celebrations taking place in the fall season.

Teaching Diversity

by Yeira Howell

Over the years we have come to realize that teaching and embracing diversity helps children become more involved in the socio emotional component of this particular development and it is one of the key elements for children to learn to grow up being sensitive toward others. This is why we learn about the different customs, languages, celebrations, food, and clothing from around the world.

Fall Cultural Event

This annual event presents children and families with the opportunity to learn about the different cultural groups that make up Monte Tavor's community of families. This school year, we would like to revisit and host this event in the spring. We would also love if parents would volunteer to plan an activity or put together information about where their ancestors came from, presented cultural images or artifacts, or gave a mini lesson on a foreign language or a song. Parent involvement would be a delightful opportunity for children to learn about cultures and diversity.



WATER PLAY



Dramatic Play

The make believe dramatic play themes are observed year round as children put on pretend roles.



Classifying and Arranging

Classifying and arranging in series, by colors, sizes shapes are early ways for children to understand basic patterns, count math and recognize colors.

FAST FACTS

Children will naturally learn to do these tasks when exposed to a series of linking toys developed for fine motor and eye hand coordination. 42% of them will arrange them without the teachers' help. While,



58% of Children may learn by watching others complete these activities and may begin arranging them from that point on. According to a Child and Youth Health article, children immitate "what they see, hear and experience" from their peers, caregivers and parents. (cyh.com)

Observational Summary Reports

by Yeira Howell

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Check our website for the next round of conferences now being held every four months.

CONFERENCES
[SCHEDULER](#)

Observation reports and assessments are a great way for parents to know where their children may be marking and what they are doing year round.

Our whole approach is based on the four developmental areas of socio emotional, language, cognitive, and physical motor skills. Each helping us understand and get to know the individual child better.

The different checklists and observational sheets help teachers and providers understand the areas that need improvement. The areas involve language acquisition (English and Spanish), gross motor skills (ability to walk, run, climb and play sports), fine motor skills (the ability to paint, draw and write), sharing (the ability to ask for a turn and to ask a teacher for help), confidence in growing abilities (Are children able to express their feelings without being shy? Do they feel proud of their own accomplishments?)

Temperaments Traits checklists are completed by the time your child is 2- 2 1/2 years old. This checklist alone provide much information that helps us put together activities and learning exposures to children who may need more peer interaction to help cope with behavioral issues or active reading for developing language and gaining language comprehension skills. These language skills help children better cope with sharing and communicating wants and needs. The list provide with nine different

temperament traits that helps us understand the individual child. The observational summary reports keep track of how your child and group is learning in the mentioned developing areas.

Other checklists follow each school year checking the cognitive logical thinking skills and problem solving, language and expression component, the socio-emotional ability to feel confident and in control of emotions and the physical motors divided into two sections the gross and fine motors.



Riding tricycles with classmates at Skyline.

Below Sensory Play at Laguna.



Dance Events

The summer dance events brought a lot of excitement to children and their families. Seeing them at the toddler, preschool and the September older infant dance show was with great satisfaction. Many families met for the first time and were able to make connections. These shows may get a different twist in the spring and summer months in the upcoming calendar year.

PARENT ENCOURAGEMENT

Parent involvement by encouraging children to participate in dancing activities, play instruments, listen to music or sing is highly recommended at home. This will help children become more involved at these events and they more likely be willing to participate without being shy or too conscious about their dance movements.

AROUND SKYLINE



Exploring the Areas

Skyline has a lot areas to explore with different terrains around the property. Children will get exposed to the outdoors and nature. Nature walks on the property and at the Artemisia hiking trail will begin to happen once a week.



Nature Teaching Children

Senses are more in contact when exposed to nature. These two toddlers are experimenting what it feels to touch a poky plant with a rough dried up flower stem at Skyline.

Infants, toddlers and preschoolers will continue to enjoy the outdoors as long as the weather allows so during the fall and winter months. Morning fog is usually an interesting event to observe in the hills. It all usually burns off by midmorning to midday. Children will learn about how this occurs and breathe the fog air outdoors.

Nature and the Outdoors, a Great Match for Children

by Yeira Howell

Finding a program that offers outdoor time at all times can be hard to find in the urban environments. Laguna and now Skyline will be able to offer just that for children.



DIFFERENT BIRDS SPECIES

Wild doves, quails, finches, and blue jays are among some of the different species of birds found in the wild environment at Skyline daily.

Science Fair and Sensory Activities

by Yeira Howell

The science fair event was another spectacular opportunity for children 15 months and older. Parent participation was the key to the success of these activities brought out annually all at once, as children were moving from one activity to the next. Thank you to all parents who participated and helped assist children at the different stations. Special thanks to Arron and Kasey for helping create a new science experiment this year.



Infants and Toddlers

Year after year, infants grow and move up to the different growth stages fairly quickly. Ages 6-12 months go through a period of rapid growth from tummy time to learning to sit up, to learning to roll over and to crawl. Learning to eat solid foods to finger foods. By the time they reach 12-15 months a lot of other transitions are occurring. This age group is learning to take their first steps, being weaned from breast milk, eliminating their third nap, eating table foods, beginning to eat Monte Tavor foods and learning how to sleep on a mat. This period of

growth from 12-15 months is really amazing to observe. It is wonderful to see them engage into play. They become so focused in the activities during those small moments. Language is also developing at a rapid pace during this time. Before you know it, infant months begin to fade, and a whole new young toddler stage begins to flourish. From that point on they are ready for more preschool activities and may begin to participate in art, sensory science, ABC learning, and physical activities.



Infants and toddlers are fun ages to observe and be part of as teachers and parents try to understand their wants and needs.

The majority of Monte Tavor children begin our program when they are infants and depart by the time they are five or almost 6 years old.

In recent years, our infant and toddler program has captivated the attention of parents in our immediate community. A majority of children in these age groups end up staying to become part of a graduating class, while developing strong family ties with one another. What an experience!!



Important Announcements

Attendance

Signing your child in and out is a very important detail that every parent should continue to do upon arrival and upon leaving the premises.

Downloading the app on your phone, using the QR Code Key Card or using your Digit PIN Code are the three ways to sign your children in and out. Please contact us immediately if you are missing any of these three methods.

Children who are not properly signed in for the day and whose photo, video and note release have been signed will not be able to receive pictures, videos or messages during the day as the system will consider your child absent.

Make sure that the number of days your child attends is confirmed. (3, 4 or 5 days) An extra day charge will be applied on days not scheduled. Make sure your hours of attendance are within the agreed hours.

Example: 7-5, 7:30-5:30, 8-6 PM or our extended hours 7-6 PM (approval is required for an additional cost of \$40.00 per week). Late pick up for anyone arriving after their scheduled time has expired time is \$3.00 per minute.

Beginning January 2018, the sign-up sheet by the kiosk will no longer be available. Each parent will need to use any one of the three methods to sign your child in. Once again, please let us know if you need assistance acquiring any one of these methods.

Wipes

Please remember to bring wipes according to the frequency you are assigned (once a month, every other month, or every 3 months). *One bag a month- infants and non-potty trained children. *One bag every other month-recently potty trained children and children under 4 years of age. *One bag every 3 months-children who have been potty trained, go to the potty on their own and children older than 4 years old. Wipes are essential, so please remember to bring them.

Make sure to ship them with your child's name to 3516 Laguna Ave. Oakland, CA 94602. Thank you!

Immunization Records

Please provide a most updated copy of your child's immunization records as soon as possible.

Children will need to have their most up to date copy on file. Families who have recently provided a copy within the last month do not have to bring a second copy.

In order for children to attend child care and preschool, they will need be immunized and current with their vaccines.

Fundraisers

The Aspire fundraiser end this Tuesday November 14, 2017. Orders and payments will need to be received by then. The Book Fair with Booklandia and Maceo will end November 29th.

Here's the link to the Monte Tavor Book Fair page:

<https://booklandia.com/collections/monte-tavors-book-fair>

Dates Closed

Thanksgiving and Day After, CLOSED

- November 23 - 24th

Winter Break CLOSED

December 25- January 5 2018

Parent participation in our fund raising events is greatly appreciated.

Fundraiser Events



Aspire Fundraising

Online orders must be completed by 11/14/2017

Aspire Fundraising is a family owned fund raising company that works in 48 separate states helping preschools and schools reach fund raising goals. Monte Tavor will receive 50% of the profit collected from the Holiday Wishes Brochure and 35% of the profit collected from other catalogs, magazines, and holiday treats. (See more details below on how you can shop on line or by using the order forms).

Every purchase from both events will make a big difference towards achieving

a successful fundraiser. Money that is raised will be used towards materials for science, art, and dramatic play props, as well as for the continuity of teachers' development and training materials that are very much needed in Spanish. We look forward to having 100% parent participation and your support will be greatly appreciated.

As a bonus, we are giving students and parents FREE prizes for supporting the fundraiser. [Click here to check out all the fun prizes!](#) In addition, when you sell 3 items you are placed in a drawing for a FREE Amazon Echo!

You can support the fundraiser by doing any of the following:

1. Purchase items out of the catalog for you and your family.
2. Ask neighbors, co-workers, friends to purchase and show their support.
3. Support by registering ONLINE at: <https://www.aspirefundraising.com>

Follow these easy steps:

- Go to seller registration and use the Monte Tavor School ID: **R1691127**
- Complete seller information to receive a Seller ID
- Send emails and post to social media directly from their website
- Sellers receive prize credit for online orders

- Check online to view online sales or send additional emails anytime!

Below are the online catalogs:

[Holiday Wishes](#)
[Heavenly Delights](#)

Turn in the top copy of your order form
Product Delivery: Approx. 3-4 weeks after order processing

Please make checks payable to:
Monte Tavor Preschool
Do NOT make checks payable to Aspire Fundraising

Online orders must be completed by: 11/14/2017
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Annual Book Fair Fundraiser

More details in mid-November

Our annual book fair is conducted through Maceo Cabrera who previously brought book displays from Barefoot Books, but will organize the Book Fair through Booklandia this year, a new organization that has a wide variety of Spanish books from Latin America. 20% of the profit collected will be donated to Monte Tavor in the form of



books.

Aspire Fund Raiser

Calendar and Events

• October 24th - November 14th

MONTE TAVOR BOOK FAIR Event

• November 6-17th

Story Time Reading with Maceo Cabrera

*Show and Tell is on
Wednesdays OR
Thursdays. Your child
may participate once a
week.*

Wednesday November 8th at
4:30 PM (ages 18 months to two
years) ONLY

Wednesday November 15th at
4:30 PM (age two to three years)
ONLY

*Show and Tell items are
meaningful objects that
will have story to tell
others. They are not
casual toys or everyday
objects.*

Thanksgiving and Day After, CLOSED

• November 23 - 24th

Winter Break

December 25- January 5 2018

*In order for every child to
have a chance to share,
your child may not be
able to share items for
consecutive weeks (2 ½
years and older).*

Monte Tavor Newsletter

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Best way to get in contact with

Monte Tavor is by calling or texting

(510) 967-2876.

E-mailing

montetavor.comunications@gmail.com

is another great way to get in contact
with us during business hours.

Voice messages may not be listened to
immediately.

Monte Tavor Preschool Laguna
3516 Laguna Avenue Oakland Ca 94602

and Monte Tavor Skyline Site
13463 Skyline Blvd Oakland Ca 94619