



## Summer Time Ending

Although summer is ending, we are very excited to begin our 23<sup>rd</sup> year teaching and helping families raise wonderful children. We welcome new and current families to the 2017-2018 school year which will be filled with many events, great lesson planned activities and an amazing curriculum.

### Announcements

**Monte Tavor's Production Shoot - This Friday, September 1, 2017 9:00 AM.** Monte Tavor has been delaying this production shoot for years now, since most schools did not have one yet. Now every school has a mini clip or professionally done production shoot. Monte Tavor has been awarded the Best Preschool of Oakland Award and it is now time to make a mini production for families who would like to know or find out more about who we are and what we do. We would like to tell our story to those who will be looking for a place to enroll their children and have not had an opportunity to meet anyone who currently or previously attended Monte Tavor. Please find a photography release form for you to review, one will be posted by the front entrance for you to sign. Parents or grandparents who would like to participate in the production are welcome to join us that morning. We will need 2-5 volunteers to tell others what Monte Tavor is all about.

**Dates closed - Monday September 4, 2017, for Labor Day. October 6, 2017, for Teachers' Observational Report Day. October 9, 2017, for Columbus Day.**

**Calendar** - Our website has a year round calendar with dates of events for family gatherings, dates when the school will be closed, observational reporting day for teachers, and parent teacher conference round dates. *Press the calendar tab, scroll down to view a calendar, and then click on the date for more information.*

**FALL SCIENCE FAIR- September 15, 2017 at 4:30-5:30 pm.** Join the fun and be prepared to have almost every discovery, sensorial and water play activity exposed at the same time. Expect your clothes to get wet and messy, and expect your children to not want to go home. Those who may have other appointments, may join us earlier at 4:00 pm. Teachers will begin to clean up at 5:30 pm, so please allow yourselves enough time to be part of this annual event. Parents, scientists or not, who would love to put together an activity for this event are absolutely welcomed to let us know.

**Monte Tavor's graduates class of 2018 Core Curriculum Meeting- September 22, 2017, at 5:00 pm**

Congratulations to the children and their families on their way to their journey to the transitional / kindergarten readiness experience. You are welcome to ask questions about the different elementary schools and open houses being held beginning next month. During conference rounds we will be able to discuss in more detail about individual readiness and assessments for kindergarten in this age group. Families will receive a packet explaining the lesson planned activities during our meeting.

**Older Infant Show - September 30, 2017, at 10:00 AM. (Children born between April 2015 and December 2015).** For the first time Monte Tavor will host a third dancing show for your older infant to perform their moves. This is an event that serves as practice for children to explore and piece together dance steps and then perform them in front of a crowd. Children performing for their first time may run off stage or experience stage fright while on stage. Parents are encouraged to join in. The show will begin promptly at 10:00 AM. We ask families to bring their children at 9:45 AM. A teacher will greet and receive your child and then take them to change into their outfits. Your child may perform with their own outfits. This event will be a pot luck event, so you may share a dish or mid-morning snack. A signup sheet will be posted by the front entrance.

**Cultural Parent Planned Activities - October 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM.** We are inviting parents to come and share a cultural related activity with children. In the past, families have read stories or sang songs from different countries and in different languages, taught steps from special cultural dances, brought in cultural costumes, made special types of art, shown pictures and images of places that they have visited, played instruments commonly used in different parts of the world, and showed pictures of places ancestors came from. You can be as creative as possible.

Just think of the fun time children will have having you present and sharing an experience.

**The facility across Laguna Avenue** We are once again excited to see that children from the class of 2018 (and class of 2019, very soon) will continue to enjoy their adventure play site at the across the street Laguna facility now operating for over a year. The covered area built in the outdoor area has allowed children to engage in activities such as reading, group discussions, yoga exercises, and physical games. The multipurpose or Back Room has served its purpose of becoming a working area for activities such art, writing, and working on workbooks. Transitional and kindergarten children have been the utilizing the area for working on their Core Curriculum.

The serenity and outdoor ambiance under the fruit trees have challenged children to be mindful of their surroundings and reflect on feelings and understandings, being compassionate toward others and practicing listening skills. This is practiced daily. Classroom guidelines and expectations are monitored and on check daily. This is the age when children become very talkative and usually need reminders for being mindful toward others.

In October children will begin crossing the street to the facility with the help of two teachers wearing bright orange vests and wielding traffic stop signs. Children will wear red firefighter hats, form a line prior to crossing the street using a rope ring holder, and wait for teachers' instructions.

## **What is continuing up ahead?**

**Babies-**The babies at Monte Tavor have been spending their time listening to their teachers sing songs, while frequently using baby maracas to join in. The babies take part in free play by laying on their belly's or backs. Doing so encourages movement of their legs and arms. Babies are given their own space to crawl and move around to teach the comprehension of self-help concepts. Babies also use baby gyms to stimulate their sense of touch while grabbing and grasping toys above them. They also play with mouthing toys, made safely for that purpose. This way they develop their cognitive and physical skills through their sense of touch, feel and sight.

Young infants will continue to enjoy the outdoors until time allows so. Activities planned include tummy time, learning to sit up, crawl, practicing to walk for those who are standing and holding on to toys and equipment.

We ensure babies get the most of their time when they are awake by practicing their sensory and gross motor skills during this rapid growth stage. The friendliness, smiles and fun time among this age group is greatly admired.

**Mobile Infants 12mo-18mo.**- This age group is practicing to slowly transition from a crib to a mat, from taking two naps to one nap in the middle of day; although a second nap may still be necessary until they fully transition. Physical games and activities include pushing and pulling roll on cars, trains and tug a long toys. Musical boxes and toys that teach sounds of vehicles, and animals are among some of their favorites. Learning how to climb on softer equipment and using short tunnels are their most fun activities. This age group is participating in the morning and afternoon circle story time activities; it is always a joy to watch them sitting attentively. Singing songs and dancing activities are becoming more apparent in this age group.

**Children 15-24 months** are participating in dancing, music and movement activities while using instruments such as bells, jingle bells, maracas, rain sticks, mini drums, and shakers. Art - utilizing crayons, oil pastels, and washable paints, while handling many art tools such as brushes, feathers, and cotton balls. Dramatic play boxes include - Family box, with mini cribs, strollers and dolls. Restaurant box, with food items. Fire fighter box, with rope hoses and firefighter hats. These boxes and Art activities are slowly being introduced.

**Toddlers 25 and older and Preschoolers 3 years to 4 years-** The morning routines will continue well into the month of October. Gardening and taking care of the plants for the first activity center every morning, children's outdoor play activities taking place under the trees or shaded areas and some water play will remain until the months of October and November. Water play will begin to cease little by little until the weather gets colder. We will revisit these summer aquatic adventures next spring using kiddie pools, sprinklers, water activity tables and more.

**Practices for the older Infant Dance Event** will officially begin on Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup> in the morning. Although not performing younger and older

children will be excited about having a fun time in their respective groups as they will hear the music playing outdoors. Teachers among all other groups younger or older may plan emergent themes for their dancing or music and movement activities. The music being played will be heard in the mornings beginning at 9:00 AM. The music rehearsals for the older infants performing on September 30<sup>th</sup> will take place daily until the end of September.

**Physical Movements - Children ages 15 months and older** will be participating! The summer is ending, but our outdoor curriculum for the fall and winter months is only beginning and will continue until weather becomes rainy or too cold. Attached you will find the types of activities that will be a part of the physical movement themes. They will include four types of exercise, sports, dance, yoga, capoeira, and gymnastics. (See attached letter.)

**Mini Bag Pack Reading Program** - Last year, we began these units later in the spring and we did not have much time to finish all units. This year we will like to visit these units in the fall and winter months. **For Older Infants 15 months - 24 months** will include -Music, Sounds, Obstacles, Numbers, Sizes, Shapes, 5 Senses, and Rhymes. **Toddlers and young Preschoolers 25 months to 3 ½ year olds** will include: Environment, Health and Safety, Nutrition, Sequence, Plants, Alphabet Recognition, Shapes and Sizes. **Older Preschoolers 4-5 ½ year olds** will include: Climates, Writing, Adding and Subtracting Bag, Preposition, Growing Plants, Environment, Health and Nutrition.

### **What are some of the announcements you may have missed in our prior newsletters?**

**SmartCare App-** We are beginning to test sending videos of children's small moments during indoor activities. This upcoming year, we are looking forward to continuing implementing this feature. Some families may continue to receive notifications from the SmartCare app indicating your child was signed in/out on days your child was absent. Those notifications only indicate that a soft sign in/out was made by one of our staff members in the app in order for us to send you a note, upload pictures and/or assign groups. We hope you have been enjoying the moments!

**Informational Message to families** - Over the years Monte Tavor has made it possible for families to receive observation reports, assessments on

various learning abilities and developmental approaches during preschool years, and ultimately a kindergarten checklist, one year prior to entering elementary school. The Best of Oakland Preschool Award we have received for two consecutive years has made us realize that many families do not know a lot about our developmental approaches or how we prepare children beginning from infancy until the time they enter kindergarten. [Read more](#)

**Milk Nutrition Law** - Monte Tavor will no longer provide 2% milk to children 1 year and older. The law requires us to only serve 1%, unless the parents provide the type of milk they would like their children to consume. The milk brought from home will need to be in an original container with your child's name. We would like to conform to this law and families were notified in our May-June Newsletter.

**Medical Forms and Incidental Medical Services Medication (IMS)** - Children will now need to have medical forms for administering any prescribed and non-prescribed medications, including Tylenol, Advil, teething tablets on file. An **IMS written plan** will need to be for nebulizer/inhaler, Epi-pens, seizure medications, diabetes and G-Tube. This plan will need to explain how the parent was trained to use the medication, when to use it, the plan of action, and how the parent has informed the school staff to use it.

**Sunscreen** - A parent consent will need to be written for sunscreen.

**Parking cars for the day** - If you normally take the bus to work and leave your car parked, we ask that you please park your car up Laguna Avenue or past Damuth Street. We are trying to allow as much accessibility as possible for parents picking up their children in the afternoons.

**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 kids older than 4 years old.

Wipes are essential, so please remember to bring them. Please make sure to ship them to **Your Name** at 3516 Laguna Ave. Oakland, CA 94602. Thank you!

★ **Amazing News**... Monte Tavor has won the award for the Best Preschool Program in Oakland for the second year in a row, we are grateful as a

community and thank you for your continued support. We couldn't have done it without you.

## Keep Meeting Our Team!

### Teachers

- Yaneth Rivas (young three year old group)
- Glenda Valladares (Older three year old Group and 4 year old group)
- Silvia Gomez (Mobile Infant group 12-15 months)
- Iris Sanchez (young infant group 6-12 months)
- Ariana Lopez (graduate group)
- Victoria Amador (16 months- 24 months) and (24-36 months)
- Elsy Larin (16 months - 24 months) and (24-36 months)
- Briseyda Lizama (24 months - 36 months)
- Consuelo Gomez (15 months to 18 months)
- Patricia Marisol Pineda (8-15 months)

### Teachers in Training/ Assistants

- Maritza Figueroa
- Azucena Garcia

### Office Team

- Iris Lopez-Finance Book Keeper
- David Cash-Finance Manager

### Providers

- Humberto Iniguez
- William Howell
- Liz Howell
- Yeira Howell
- Angela Howell

## 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. 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 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.

## Drop off and Pick up Information

As a precaution, we ask once more that parents no longer allow children to play anywhere located between the exits and sidewalk. The front steps of 3516-3512 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

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 of others (time-wise), when you drop off or pick up, and if no other parking presents itself. We also ask to help us continue to have a healthy relationship with our neighbors as to never block any of their driveways at any given time. A few neighbors have mentioned that parents keep parking in their driveways and have been inconveniencing them. The harmonious relationship with our neighbors have been part of the success in continuing to offer our services for over 22 years to our community of families.

## 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 [montetavor.communications@gmail.com](mailto:montetavor.communications@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.

## Monte Tavor's Graduates Core Curriculum Program

Parents of graduates' children who will not be able to participate at the Core Curriculum meeting are welcome to request their informational packet at [montetavor.communications@gmail.com](mailto:montetavor.communications@gmail.com). Congratulations to the children and their families on their way to their journey to the transitional / kindergarten experience. You are welcome to ask questions about the different elementary schools and open houses being held this month and next month. During conference we will be able to discuss more about readiness and assessments for kindergarten for this age group.

## The new facility across Laguna Avenue

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**DAYS CLOSED and Events**

- **September 4<sup>th</sup>**, Labor Day **CLOSED**
- **September 16<sup>th</sup>**, Teachers' training
- **September 22<sup>nd</sup>**, Class of 2018, Core Program Meeting
- **September 30<sup>th</sup>**, Older Infant Toddler Show!! 10:00 AM
- **October 4<sup>th</sup>**, Cultural Activities (Parent planned)
- **October 6<sup>th</sup>**, Teachers Observation Day Reporting Day **CLOSED**
- **October 9<sup>th</sup>**, Columbus Day **CLOSED**
- **October 13<sup>th</sup>**, Cultural Family Event 4:00-4:30 pm Share a Dish!!
- **October**, Conference Round 10/16-10/27 (schedule on website)
- **October 30<sup>th</sup>- November 3<sup>rd</sup>** Dress up week- your child may dress up and bring outfits
- **November 6-17<sup>th</sup>**, MONTE TAVOR BOOK FAIR Event
- **November 23&24<sup>th</sup>** **Thanksgiving and Day After, CLOSED**



**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.