

Tall Pines Tidings

Important Dates

March

- 1 March tuition is due ~ late after the 10th
- 7 Saturday. Special Person's Day ~ 9:30 to 11 am ~ more info to come
- 9 Board Meeting 6:30 pm at Round Table Pizza
- 9-13 School pictures during your class ~ see flyers
- 16 & 17 St. Patrick's Day Celebrations
- 18 SVC/CCPPNS Meeting ~ 6pm Bright Beginnings in Folsom
- 19 General Meeting 7 pm at school. Speaker TBA
- 20-21 SVC/CCPPNS Convention ~ San Jose
- 21 **Spring Benefit** 7-9 pm at Grass Valley Elks Lodge. Babysitting available on site. There will be entertainment and auctions!! Bring Friends and Family.
- 25-26-27 Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt ~ Y/O Bring 6 hardboiled unpainted eggs. PT bring 6 filled plastic eggs.
- 3/30 - 4/3 Spring Break ~ No school



April

- 1-3 Spring Break
- 6 Return to school
- 6 Tuition due. Late after the 17th
- 13 Board meeting 6:30 pm at Tall Pines
- 13-14 Smokey the Bear visits
- 17 Movie Night ~ movie TBA
- 18 Spring Clean-Up. 10 am to 2 pm
- 22 Wild Things at 10:30 am - All classes are invited - look for flyer.
- 29+30 Farm Field Trip to be determined



May

- 1 No dues if already paid ~ all unpaid tuition due
- 2 Bike-a-Thon 10:30 to 1:30

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Kids Are Cooking in February and March

March

4+5 Kerri & Samuel's energy balls ~ Yum!

11+12 Grilled cheese

16+17 Leprechaun Luncheon. St. Patrick's Day celebrations in class.

18+19 parents bring snack (on schedule).

25+26+27 Easter celebrations – Sign up to bring something to share. Younger/Older each child brings 6 hardboiled eggs, uncolored and uncracked. Children will color them and go on an egg hunt! PT classes, please bring 6 filled plastic eggs for each child.

April

8+9 Granola, milk and bananas..

15+16 Bear pancakes (bring your teddy bear)

22+23 Monkey bread and bananas.

29+30 Farm Field Trip. Bring a bag lunch and drink.



President's Message

*Hello Tall Pines Parents,
The days are getting longer as we near the official Start of Spring. This has always been my favorite time of year at Tall Pines. This is the month of our Spring Benefit and what I feel is the kick-off to many more amazing things like the Bike-a-thon and Movie night.*

What amazing chances for our kids to create and deepen that bond they are just learning to be "Friendship". Stay well and see you around school or at the General Meeting!

 ~ Stephanie

Tall Pines Tidings

Business Office

The Business Office continues to be a very busy place these days ~ registration for next school year is in full swing! If you haven't already done so, stop by and pick up a registration packet for next year. Remember, we give priority to our current membership...but when we open up registration to the general public on March 16th, it's 'first come, first serve!' Speaking of which, please let your friends know that they will be able to register beginning Monday, March 16th, or if their children are an alumni of the school, Wednesday, March 11th. All you need to register is a signed contract, plus a check for registration and first month's tuition. You will have the rest of the summer to fill out the remainder of the forms.

Here are the fees
for the 2015-2016 school year:

Registration for the 2 or 3 day per week
program ~ \$100

Registration for the PT program ~ \$65

**Please note that the maximum registration
per family is \$100

Two-Day per week Tuition ~ \$125 per month

Three-Day per week Tuition ~ \$188 per month

PT Tuition ~ \$52 per month

Please note these fees are **non-refundable
~ I would be happy to work with you on a
payment plan if needed.

During this busy time, you may notice a few more visitors stopping by to check out our program ~ please welcome them and share your reasons for choosing our wonderful school! Thank you again for all you do for Tall Pines!!

As always, please ask should you have any questions. And, thank you to everyone for remembering to pay your May's Tuition in February!!

♥ ~ Nicole

Hair by Kristen

**Mobile hair services
in the comfort of your home!**

Don't have 3 hours for an appointment at a salon? Don't want to pay a babysitter while you're there? I will come to you!

15 years of experience with an extensive, full clientele in the Bay Area.

Cuts, Color, Highlights, and Smoothing
Treatments are my specialties.

(I've been doing this with a couple Tall Pines Moms and it works out great for everybody!)



Kristen Adams
415-599-6366
hairbykristen@gmail.com

Tall Pines Tidings

From Your Fundraising Team

Mark your calendars Tall Pines families, it's almost time for the **Spring Benefit!** Once again we are in the historic Elks Lodge in Downtown Grass Valley. With their amazing ballroom and groovy music by Chris Kelly we know it's going to be an incredibly fun night out! Bring your friends and family and enjoy a night of dancing, delicious hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and our incredible raffle items and silent auction! This year your ticket price includes one free drink at the bar too! Secure, on-site babysitting for Tall Pines families will be provided by Venture Crew from Nevada Union High School but space is limited. Sign up as soon as possible to reserve your child's spot for the night (\$7 per child, 2 years old or older please) as well as your own! Sign-ups are on the easel by the kitchen and payment can be included in folder provided or paid at the door the night of the event. We hope to see you all there!

Tall Pines Nursery School

Spring Benefit

March 21, 2015

6pm-9pm

Tickets \$25 per person

Babysitting \$7 per child (2 year old and up) Space is limited!

****tickets and babysitting sign-ups on the easel by the kitchen****

Thank you to all our amazing families for all you do to support our school!

♥ - Monique, Jamie and Mishelle

Wild Things !



April 22nd 10:30 at Tall Pines. All classes invited. Be on time. All must leave immediately afterward. except Tu/Thu Younger &

Older classes. Children not in class at this time must be accompanied by an adult.

♥ - Teacher Debby

From your eScrip coordinator

Thank you to everyone who continues to use their various school rewards cards and vouchers. Remember every purchase, no matter the size, using a card or voucher is money in our hand. If shopping habits have changed or you've run out of vouchers, let me know and I can get you up and raising money for Tall Pines again in no time!

Thanks for all you do!

♥ - Chad Wingo

Learning to Toilet, by Teacher Michelle

Helping children use the toilet is one of the first teaching experiences parents have with their child. Not only are parents teaching a self-help skill but, they are also learning how their child's personality and learning style work with the parents' personalities and learning styles.

Tall Pines Tidings

Just like any skill, mastering toileting takes time, practice, and patience. Teaching moments begin with the early stages of diapering. Focusing on what you are doing, how you are doing it and communicating to your baby are important lessons. A caregiver who is concentrating on the baby, instead of texting or the next errand, is more likely to be relaxed and able to see baby's cues. Toddlers begin to show signs of independence and readiness for toileting around 18-24 months of age. Even after successful attempts, children may regress. Regression is a normal part in the process of learning.

For most children, the normal process of toileting involves attempts, accidents, and struggles. There are three areas of readiness for learning: cognitive, physical, and emotional. All three areas must show readiness at the same time, in order to master the skill of toileting. If a child can hold and release pee and poop (physical) and communicate they are peeing or poop is coming (cognitive) but, they are not willing to use the potty (emotional), mastery will not occur. The same is true if the child wants to use the toilet and feels pee coming but cannot release the pee at will. A parent's job is to read the signs of readiness, provide props (potty chair, potty seat, step/stool), and follow the child's lead. Just like reading and writing, a teacher provides the tools and environment but the child has the will to choose or refuse. And toddlers are notorious for demonstrating their wills!

Look at accidents as learning opportunities for you and your child. If you discover a puddle on the floor, do not shame or degrade the child or make it a bad incident. Instead, state the obvious and offer assistance: "Oh, I see you made pee on the floor. The pee came out before you could get to the potty. If

you want help to the potty, let me know and I know you can do it. Let's change your clothes and you can choose to wear underpants or a diaper." Keeping an optimistic attitude and trust in your child and parenting skills can be tiresome. Expert Janis Keyser says, "The most significant help we can give children as they are learning to use the toilet is our faith that it will happen."

If your child is learning to toilet and you have concerns or questions, just ask.



- Teacher Michelle

From Teacher Kelsey

Hello Tall Pines family! With all of the flowers and trees blooming it sure feels like Spring. I am still holding out for more winter, but I have to say the warm sun and green grass is hard not to enjoy.

When I first joined the Tall Pines family as a parent, I couldn't help but feeling overwhelmed by the family and community aspect of this learning environment. As parents we want the most loving, kind, and nurturing relationships for our children. Tall Pines not only offers this to the students, but the parents as well.

The year may be more than half over but I want to strongly encourage you, as parents, to reach out and make friendships with other Tall Pines parents. Even if this means stepping out of your comfort zone and reaching out to someone you have not spoken with. You will be amazed at the connections that you have. Forming these relationships is beneficial for you and your child. When the

Tall Pines Tidings

summer months come you will find a richer more fulfilled experience.

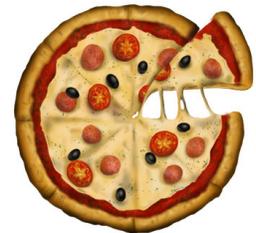
You may have noticed a few new faces here at Tall Pines as we have added new students to a few of our classes. Please welcome these children and parents so they can feel comforted and excited to join this community. As our children observe us extending kindness and friendliness they model that same positive behavior. We are building the foundation for our children's life-long journey of human interaction and it is a blessing that we can give them so much opportunity to see love and kindness every day.

♥ - Teacher Kelsey

Pizza Booth at the Fair

It's getting to be close to the end of the year which means it's time to start thinking about the pizza booth. As you know, each family is required to work approximately 6 hours for the booth. This can be either in the booth, setting up, clean-up, or as a driver. The sign-up sheet will be available after the next general meeting. The Fair is August 11-17. Please keep in mind your summer travel plans when you sign up. I know that this can seem a long way off but this is a huge fundraiser for our school and it takes each and every one of us to make it the fun money maker it can be.

Also, we are looking for someone who wants to help out this year and be a part of the pizza booth team for next year. My baby is



due right at Fair time so my time in the booth will be limited. Megan Lindsen will be taking charge but she could use the help. It can be a big job for one person. This is the third year I have been involved and I have truly enjoyed the experience. It is a wonderful way to get to know the Tall Pines families and be actively involved in our children's school. If you have any questions about helping with the pizza booth, shifts, or in general don't hesitate to ask myself or Megan.

♥ - Leia & Megan



HATS OFF TO DAWSON

Let's pull together and help Dawson's Family with all the extra expenses so they can focus on Dawson being healthy again

SATURDAY
MARCH 14, 2015
4PM to 9PM

Tickets
\$15.00 per person
Get your tickets now:
Call:
Kathy Dorris 559-2828
Kathy Pitts 277-8179
Gail Blagg 265-9395
Checks or Cash



Nevada County
Horsemen Club
Bubbling Wells Rd
Grass Valley, CA
Tickets can also be purchased at:
All About You Salon
Artistic Edge Salon & Spa
Beam Center
Day Break Café
Forever Yours Flowers
Mill Street Clothing
Plaza Tire & Auto
Scissors & Files Salon

TACO FEED FUND RAISER Raffle AND Silent Auction



Dawson Deschaine was diagnosed on New Year's Eve with AML Leukemia. He is currently receiving chemo therapy treatment at UC Davis Pediatrics in Sacramento. His prognosis is very good but the road is a long one. Let's all take our HATS OFF TO DAWSON and help this wonderful Nevada County Family!



Tall Pines Tidings

Board of Directors positions

This is the time we start looking for wonderful parents to guide the school in positive directions. We are a non-profit organization, and it is necessary for our non-profit status to continue with a great Board of Directors. Our co-op is governed by By-laws and Articles of Incorporation. We always strive to maintain excellence at Tall Pines Nursery School.

The Board positions open for the upcoming 2015-16 school year are listed below. If you are interested, talk to our current President Stephanie Harvey-Statler, Teacher Debby or Nicole Kiser in the office. We would love to have you on board!

♥ Teacher Debby & Board of Directors

President
 Vice-President (2 positions)
 Secretary
 Budget/Finance
 Newsletter editor
 Technical Support
 Fundraising (3 positions)
 eScrip
 Pizza Booth
 Maintenance

Class Representatives:
 Mon-Weds Younger
 Tues-Thurs Younger
 Mon-Weds Older
 Tues-Thurs Older
 PT I
 PT II

Science Corner

We are talking about rainbows and at the end there might be a pot of gold!



Rainbow experiment

In a clear cup pour a layer of each of the following liquids:

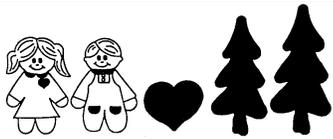
Colored green water
 Blue dish soap
 Cooking oil
 Pink shampoo

Watch as the layers separate out into the same pattern no matter which order you pour them into the cup.

What happened? Density! Each ingredient has a different density. The heaviest (more dense) liquids will fall to the bottom and the lightest (less dense) will always float to the top.

Enjoy. This is science!

♥ Teacher Debby



Teacher Debby's Parent Pages

Relation of our Program to Growth Characteristics

Physical Growth

Independence is "routines" such as hand washing, taking off and hanging up coats, and toileting is encouraged. Self-help skills in feeding such as spreading and pouring are encouraged.

Much equipment is available to encourage both large and small motor activity. Specific teaching of skills is done in response to the child's needs and interests. For example, when a child is stuck on top of a jungle gym, guide him in discovering how to get unstuck, rather than just lifting the child down. "Keep holding on with your hands and reach down with this foot" (then touch the specified foot). "I'll help your foot find the step" (and physically guide his foot to the right step).

The program may encourage development of specific skills by the varied equipment provided, and the way the environment is organized.

Emotional Growth

Listening, sitting at their level, using their names, expressing appreciation for their accomplishments, helping when needed and encouraging independence, are all things that promote the child's sense of self-worth.

Their ability to stay at school without their mothers; their discovery that there are other friendly adults who will help them; their solutions to physical, social and intellectual problems, will promote independence and self-confidence for the child.

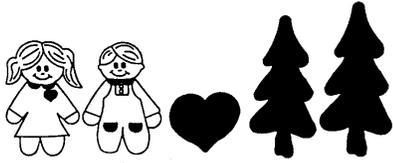
Respect for the child's feelings, while limiting their expression of those feelings, helps the child learn self-control. You can express these concepts in many ways: "I know you are angry that you cannot have that toy right now, but Billy needs a chance to play with it for a few minutes before he will be ready to give you a turn. It's alright to feel angry but I won't let you grab the toy. You will have to wait. Or – "Sometimes we are afraid of things that make loud noises. Do you want to watch the fire truck through the window?" Or – "It is hard to say goodbye sometimes. I will stay with you while your mother leaves. Would you like to sit on my lap until you feel ready to play?"

Social Growth

Some children need to watch for quite a while before they are ready to join in. Do not feel you have to make the child do anything. Observing is a very real form of social activity; it is participation; a stepping stone to group interaction.

Certain areas/activities at school promote spontaneous group play. We arrange equipment and provide props to encourage such play. Our playhouse and dramatic play settings such as the puppets, fire hat and hose, block people and animals, are examples of such areas. Cooperative painting on a large paper turns a usually solitary activity into a social one.

Physical skill activities such as jumping off the board, sliding, bean bag tossing, etc. teach routines for taking turns as well as physical skill. Negotiation over use of space and toys in the sand teaches social problem solving.



Teacher Debby's Parent Pages

The adults' role is primarily in arranging the environment. During play, the adult supervises the observance of a few rules such as "People aren't for hitting", "if you didn't build it, you don't knock it down" and "we take care of our toys". The adult also acts as a resource, suggesting additional equipment or play roles as the child's interest indicates. Sometimes the adult may add words -vocabulary to help the child enrich their play. For example, "the person who adds up your groceries is called the checker" or "Every grocery needs a stocker to fill the shelves back up after the people buy things."

Intellectual Growth

Because children have a need for self-selection, and younger ones need frequent changes and activity, a variety of activities is provided. In order for children to be able to find play spaces independently, a minimum of one-and-a-half play spaces per child must be available.

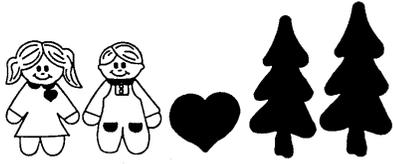
Many opportunities are provided for children to use language. Enough adults are present to introduce new words in meaningful contexts. Child to child talk fosters increasing fluency and clarity. Language skills are also developed through music, stories and language games.

The most effective teaching is done in response to the child's needs or interests. We sometimes encourage these needs and interests by the materials we provide. The presence of other children will also be stimulating to the child.



~Teacher Debby

How has your child grown in these areas? Write them down here...



Teacher Debby's Parent Pages

Parents...Read Aloud to Your Kids, say Experts

Released 7/24/2008

Source: University of Alabama at Birmingham

Research shows that whether a child has been read aloud to on a regular basis is the single biggest predictor of a child's success in learning to read, says University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Associate Professor of Education Kathleen Martin, PhD.

Martin and UAB Assistant Professor Kay Emfinger, PhD, are authors of the new book "Sharing Books Together: Promoting Emergent Literacy Through Reading Aloud and Home-School Partnerships."

"Reading aloud to children helps them develop oral language," says Martin. "It teaches them how to listen and how narrative is structured. They also learn vocabulary and how print works and that it is read from left to right."

Children who are not read aloud to often enter kindergarten and first grade lacking these skills, which Martin says are important for learning how to read.

"A lot of parents know that reading aloud to their children is important," says Martin, "but often they don't realize that it continues to be of value as the child ages. Also, many parents probably have less time to read aloud to their children these days."

"It is never too early to begin reading aloud to children," Martin said. Even infants can enjoy looking at illustrations in a book as their

parents read to them. When children are passed kindergarten, they still need to be read aloud to in order to learn about more complicated subjects and how to listen to and comprehend more sophisticated text, Martin said.

It's important for parents to be animated when they are reading to children, says Martin. Using different voices for the various characters in a story makes the experience more fun for young children.

For older children, it's important to look for quality literature that offers a satisfying story. Parents can select books that have a particular theme or that are written by the child's favorite author, she said.



Besides reading aloud narrative fiction, poetry, which has rhyme, rhythm and repetition, can also be enjoyable for children. Reading aloud non-fiction also has benefits.

"Some children enjoy facts more than stories," says Martin, "and reading non-fiction can build up a child's background knowledge."

However, parents should never force children to listen to a text if the child is bored by the material. Reading should always be presented as a fun activity, Martin said.

♥ - Teacher Debby