Mountain Oak School

1455 Willow Creek Road • Prescott, AZ 86301 • 928.541.7700

Mountain Oak School Sunflower Kindergarten
Autumn 2013

Welcome Sunflower Kindergarten Families:

It is with great joy and excitement that I look forward to this coming school year. We will be learning, growing and playing together in the kindergarten at our beautiful school site.

As you may know the Waldorf Kindergarten approach works with the daily, weekly and seasonal rhythm throughout the year. We will begin creating our own school rhythms with watercolor painting, baking, modeling, storytelling, singing, gardening, woodworking and nature walks as we make new friends. There are many wonderful festivals that we will celebrate throughout the school year. I welcome you to share any that are special to your family with our class, thereby enriching all of us.

As summer draws to its close there is an excitement in the air that school will soon begin. The first day of school is **Tuesday, August 20th**. Enclosed please find some helpful hints and a supply list for what you will need for the first day of school, as well as the child-family history form. This form helps give me a picture of your child's development, and we can go over it in more detail in person if you like. Also, please take time to read the parent handbook; there is a lot of helpful information about our school. It is available and accessible online at our website at www.mountainoakschool.org. In an effort to promote easier communication please sign up through our website, to receive our weekly newsletter 'the Tuesday'. I also invite you to join us on **Saturday, August 17th** at 9:00 am for a family workday to prepare our classroom and site for the new school year. This will be a nice chance to work and play together before school begins.

There are many practical needs throughout the school year such as weekly laundry, shopping, joining us for our regular walks, class parent and PA representative, helping with the festivals, garden gatherings, campus care and improvements, repairs and sewing just to name a few. Let me know if you are

interested in helping with any of this work, and can further discuss the details at our first parent evening.

Again, I look forward to a wonderful year and the chance to learn, grow and play together as we are all a part of the Mountain Oak School's wonderful Waldorf community!

Ms. Gena Hahn

Helpful hints for the beginning of kindergarten
2013-2014

- Each child will have their own cubby/hook in which to store their belongings. In the Kindergarten we do a lot of rigorous activity and we often get dirty, so please bring a full set of extra clothing, a sun hat and also water/mud boots. For inside the classroom we ask that the children wear soft well-fitted slippers. We ask these items are free of any media, Disney or sports characters, thank you. The kindergarten parent handbook, available via our new website, has more details or you may speak to me if you have any questions. Please see that your child's name is on all of their belongings for these items will remain at school until needed.

- Daily we will provide a healthy mid-morning snack of grains served with fruits and nuts or vegetables and also tea or water. We try to use organic ingredients as much as possible! Please let me know if there are any special dietary concerns we need to be aware of for your child. We will do our best to make any special arrangements to honor your family's request. Please, also bring a water bottle with your child's name on it.

- We highly recommend that your child does not have any television, computer-screen time, or any other overly stimulating media, especially in the morning before school. In fact, it is the school's view that little or none at all is best. I would be glad to discuss alternatives if this is a concern, so we can make this transition easier.

Finally, I encourage you to take a moment to look through the parent handbook for more information about school routine and daily rhythms. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to speak to me. I will be available right after school daily or you may contact me via my school email address <ghahn@mountainoakschool.org>, or I can be reached at school, (928) 541-7700. I will also available to arrange for a home visit or set a time when we can connect so that I may learn about your child i.e.: their birth, any nutritional concerns, favorite play things, siblings etc…

It is going to be a wonderful year and I look forward to getting to know your child and your family!

Ms. Gena

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Sunflower Kindergarten
Supply List

Personal items which will stay at school in your child's cubbie all year
Please have your child's name on these items
~ we ask these items are free of any media characters, thank you~

Full set of extra clothing

Sun hat

Soft soled inside slippers/shoes

Water bottle

Mud/snow boots and a warm winter hat*
We will not need these until the season changes, and I do have some extra boots

Supplies for community classroom needs
(these items do not need names on them)

1 box of Kleenex

1 ream of recycled white copy paper

2 bags of cough drops (Ricola or other natural kind)

1 box of band-aids

2 glue sticks

1 bottle of liquid glue

Thank you for contributing these items to our classroom community!