

October 2026 Parent Circle Meeting Notes

Admin Updates & Calendar

Faculty has been taking a closer look at our festivals - particularly the why behind each celebration and how to keep them meaningful while also making them sustainable for faculty and families.

Michaelmas: This year's celebration felt especially meaningful, with more emphasis on the Texas harvest and community service. One takeaway for next year is that we could use more help with cleanup.

Oct. 6: School-side carline, Grades Campus - AM only

Oct. 9-12: Fall Break - No School

Oct. 16, 2:35 PM: Grades Assembly

Oct. 18: Ladies Brunch

Oct. 24, 10:00-11:30 AM: EC Parent Education - lantern making, Martinmas and early childhood development

Oct. 29-30: Parent-Teacher Conferences

Nov. 2: Día de los Muertos

Nov. 6: EC Martinmas

Nov. 13: Grades Martinmas

Dec. 2: Strings Concert

Upcoming Festivals

Día de los Muertos - Nov. 2

Mrs. Badot shared some of the history of Día de los Muertos at our school. The celebration is meant to be a joyful and reverent way for the children to remember loved ones and those who came before us.

Each class will bring an offering to the altar, with Spanish classes also learning about the traditions surrounding the celebration. The ceremony will likely be around 10 AM, with the exact time still to come.

Parents will be able to help with craft prep, marigolds, altar setup on Nov. 1, serving Pan de Muerto and hot chocolate, and GF/DF alternatives. Craft Circle will also help with craft preparation. A SignUpGenius will be shared with specific needs.

Martinmas

Ms. Rachel shared about Martinmas, or the Festival of Compassion. Following Michaelmas and its focus on courage and will, Martinmas turns toward compassion and recognizing the light in others.

The children will make lanterns as a symbol of carrying their own light through the darker season. The school is also looking into a food and clothing drive. More details will come soon.

Committee Updates

Care Committee: There is a family in our community that could use some quiet support right now. To respect their privacy, we will not be organizing a Meal Train. Anyone who would like to help can leave restaurant/DoorDash gift cards or cash toward gift cards at either school office.

Parent Education: No update yet.

Gala: Planning is just getting started. Budget, venue and other major decisions still need to be worked through with Admin. A Secret Garden theme was suggested as one possible idea.
Contact

Women's Retreat: Returning to Golden Hill Retreat Center over MLK weekend (Jan 15-17) Day-only, one-night and two-night options will be available. Meals are included, with vegetarian/vegan and GF options. A survey and registration information will be coming soon, with early-bird pricing planned through October.

Teacher Appreciation: Lori has taken on the leadership of this committee; additional support is needed. The main focus will be Parent-Teacher Conference meals, holiday appreciation, Teacher Appreciation Week and end-of-year appreciation, working with Class Parents.

Craft Circle: Moving to the 2nd and 4th Mondays, around 8:30-10:30 AM after drop-off. October will be adjusted around Fall Break (October 15 9:30-11:30am @ Anna's house and October 26 8:30-10:30am @ EC kitchen). Text Anna @ 386.405.3378 or join WhatsApp group for more details. The next handwork focus is finger knitting and crochet.

Community Gatherings

Ladies Gathering: Third Sunday of the month at 11 AM. The goal is to keep gatherings easy and flexible - brunch, coffee, etc. Please RSVP ahead of time.

Guys Night: First Thursday of each month. A winter camping retreat is also being discussed.

Family Park Day: Oct. 6 after carline at Jerry Matheson Park, followed by Crust Pizza. Another gathering is being considered for November.

Fundraising

Annual Giving: Launching soon. QR codes will be available during carline and around campus to make donating easier. The goal is 100% participation from our community. Even a small donation counts toward participation and can help with future grant opportunities.

Families are also encouraged to check for corporate matching through their employers. If the school isn't already listed in a company portal, Admin can provide the information needed to add it. We also discussed looking into restaurant/spirit nights as another simple fundraising opportunity.

8th Grade Trip: The 8th grade is fundraising for its class trip to Cottonwood Gulch in New Mexico. Families can support through pumpkin sales, Pizza Fridays, bake sales, other upcoming fundraisers or direct donations designated for the 8th Grade Trip.