



MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S SCHOOL HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Fall 2012 | montessoricsh.com | facebook.com/montessoricsh

IN THE CLASSROOM

BY: MISS DAY

We are off on another great start to the school year. Many thanks for your patience and cooperation during the orientation period. We cannot overemphasize the importance and benefit of that time. The new children adjust so beautifully to the rules and routines of the class when they are allowed to transition so smoothly. We truly have the best of both worlds, new impressionable 3 year olds who bring a new

dimension and the older children who we can rely on for help and examples.

Academically we are studying reptiles, amphibians, dinosaurs and the continent of Australia. We have reviewed the life cycle of a frog and the special attributes of reptiles.

The children are surprised to learn that the most colorful frogs are usually the most dangerous and poisonous. Ask your child about the brain of the Stegosaurus, it was only the size

of a walnut.

Australia is a great continent to study at the beginning of the year because it is so easily reproduced. There has been much map-making going on. It is a great activity for practicing cooperation and group skills. Australia is also special because of all the unique animals that are found there. The children have learned about marsupials and that the echidna and platypus are special mammals that lay eggs.

THE PEACE POLE

Look for something new that will also soon be "planted" in our garden. Thanks to a very generous donation we now have a peace pole to display outside our school. It has four sides and says, "May peace prevail" in three different languages. The history of the Peace Pole is very interesting. It started in Japan in 1955 by Masahisa Goi who dedicated his life to spreading peace in response to the bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. "Peace Poles carrying the message 'May Peace Prevail on Earth' have been presented to many international organizations and governments to promote a Culture of Peace around the world, including the XIV Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa, President Jimmy Carter, Deepak Chopra and John Denver.

There are Peace Poles on the Allenby Bridge between Israel and Jordan; at the Peace Park where 84 Peace Poles commemorate the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City; at the War Museum in Viet Nam; at Robben Island in South Africa, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned; at the Pyramids at El Giza in Egypt; at the site of



the baptism of Jesus at Bethany-Beyond-the-Jordan; and at schools, churches, synagogues, mosques and temples across the United States and around the "world." (The world peace prayer

website)

I have personally planted 3 peace poles, 2 being in Pittsburgh, and am very excited to see one here at our school.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 12 No School. Teacher In Service
- October 29,30 No School. Teacher In Service and Observation Day
- November 5 Teacher's Meeting am session ends at 11:00 /pm sessions begins at 1:00
- November 8 Fall Parent Meeting
- Demonstration of Montessori Materials 7:00pm
- Parent Reception 8:00pm
- November 12 Children's Thanksgiving Feast am session show 10:45am/ pm session show 2:15 pm

For more event information go to the calendar section on our website montessoricsh.com/for_parents.htm



EXTENDED DAY

BY: MISS ELIZABETH

It's my favorite time of year again... The air is crisp, the leaves are turning, fall is definitely in the air, and so is extended day! I look forward to seeing the children return from summer break, they always seem to have grown more than possible. I marvel that the small child who left in the spring is now a more mature child ready to be the role model of the large class and take on the responsibilities and workload of the extended day. And they get such a

charge walking into the class that they once only admired from the 3-6 room as a place where the "big kids" go. I overheard a conversation this year between a returning extended day student and a new extended day student. A pencil needed sharpened and the older child was telling her friend where to sharpen it. Only the new extended day'er stopped short at my door and said, "I can't go in there, that's for extended day children". I interjected and said, "Come on in because that's what you are now". You should

have seen the look that flashed across her face. It was one of pure pride, just priceless, and only one of many reasons why I love my job.

This year I have many fun and exciting things in store for the children from outside expert visitors to gardening, art, and theater classes. And I wouldn't want to miss mentioning the ultimate favorite - movie night. As always I want to thank you, the parents, for your dedication; and for believing in the three, and sometimes four, year process. You won't be disappointed!

IN THE GARDEN



The leaves may be turning colors but the extended day thumbs are still green! Thanks to Carrie, August Zentner's Mom and some extended day families that donated soil and money for a raised garden bed, we are now able to extend our growing season into the colder months. After doing a fall clean up to ready the garden area the extended day students planted bulbs and mums for the spring. They also constructed a raised bed and seeded it with carrots, lettuce, kale, and radishes. How much fun it will be to harvest fresh veggies in the snow of winter!

APPLES FOR STUDENTS IS UNDERWAY

The Giant Eagle Apples for the Students program is underway! If you haven't already, please take a minute to sign up. If you signed up last year, there is no need to do it again. Currently, we have 28 people enrolled - we would love to see that number even higher!

Follow the link below & have your GE card handy.



1. Visit www.gianteagle.com/about/apples-for-students

2. Enter Montessori Children's Schoolhouse ID 5309 and the 12 digit number from the back

of your Advantage Card (located under the bar code).

Each time you shop at Giant Eagle & use your card, you earn points for Montessori Children's

Schoolhouse to earn FREE educational equipment. Last year, we were again able to earn enough points to purchase several items.

It takes just a moment and the rewards help our school. Please encourage grandparents, neighbors and friends to register too. Any questions on Apples for Students, please contact Katie Scherer (Andy - AM class) at schererkatie@gmail.com.