



Moultrie Montessori Newsletter

February 2017

The education of even a small child, therefore, does not aim at preparing him for school, but for life.

Maria Montessori

Dates to Remember

Wednesday, February 1, 2017	Monthly Tuition Due
Friday, February 3, 2017	Teacher In-Service Day-Student Holiday
Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.	Parent Community Event
Friday, February 17, 2017 at 12:00	Early Release
Monday, February 20, 2017	President's Day Holiday
Tuesday February 21, 2017	Student/Teacher Holiday
Saturday, February 25, 2017 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Spring Gardening Event

Valentine's Day

At Moultrie Montessori we participate in Valentine's Day. Children typically make a Valentine for each child in their class and bring it to school on February 14th to share with their classmates. Think creative giving! Small, sweet, and thoughtful.

Valentines should have only the name of the person giving the valentine and should not be addressed to individual children.

Please make enough for each child to be included in the giving to our friends:

Toddler group: 5 friends
Primary group: 31 friends
Elementary group: 21 friends



Director's Note from Miss Jeannie

Thank you for the efforts you have made to get your children to school by 8:30. I know that it has been an effort to make changes to your morning routine and that there have been a few hiccups. Hopefully, new routines are now established and things are going smoothly at home. It is truly wonderful what a difference this has made in the classroom. Everyone is starting together, which builds more connection. No interruptions during morning circles and lessons means that we are starting sooner and everyone's focus is much better. Thank you!

One of the many things that I love about the Montessori method is that it is universal. Dr. Maria Montessori developed her method of education based on the needs of the developing child to address the different stages of growth as well as all areas of growth. Physical, emotional, social, spiritual and intellectual needs are met to promote the maximum development of a child's potential. It was Maria Montessori's goal for her educational method to be beneficial to all children and to be adaptable to all cultures and over time. Seeing that the Montessori method is experiencing a period of growth around the world after more than a hundred years of success, it is clear that the method is adaptable and continues to meet the needs of children everywhere.

My grandchildren in St Augustine, my granddaughter in Zurich, Switzerland, and my niece and nephew in Bangkok, Thailand spend their days in classrooms that are very similar. Even though they are growing up far from each other in different cultures, speaking different languages, they have the same educational experience. This experience gives them a common ground with which to relate when they come together. When I think of the growing number of children in the world with the same educational foundation, I feel excited about the possibilities of connections and communication everywhere as they grow older.

I also feel grateful that at Moultrie Montessori School there are children from different backgrounds, different countries and cultures, different religious and family traditions, who speak a variety of languages, and whose daily experience tells them that this is perfectly natural and normal. There is room at the table for all.

Moultrie Montessori

Ms. Lisa graciously requests donations of HP 61 Black Original Ink Cartridge (CH561WN) for the printer for the Elementary students. FYI - Amazon prime members can currently purchase a cartridge for \$13.99.



Community Event

Thursday, February 16th at 6:00 p.m.

Our next Parent Community Event will continue with a presentation and discussion of the Montessori Focus Areas. Jeannie will lead a discussion of the Sensorial Area and its purpose in Montessori Education. Please RSVP to the Event on the Montessori Community Facebook Page so we can plan accordingly. Thank you. It is understood our lives get busy, but it is important we meet to learn more about the environment our children spend their days in and hopefully get to know each other too!

RALLY FOR RUGS

The rug fund now has \$310. Thank you. A special thanks to the Weber-McGarrigle family, who promoted the fundraiser and donated enough to make it possible to purchase a new rug. A large rug will cost \$500.

Daily Schedule

- 8:15 Arrival
- 8:30 Morning Circle
- 8:50 Work Cycle, individual lessons, child choice
- 11:00 Circle: Movement, singing, stories, wash hands
- 11:30 Lunch
- 12:00 Outdoor Play
- 12:45 Rest
- 1:45 Art/free choice
- 2:30 Dismissal

Spring Gardening Event

Saturday, February 25th 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Folks should bring gloves, rakes and weeding equipment to make our school beautiful. Plants/flowers if you would like to add, but not required.

Reminder

In order to help the afternoon car line move smoothly, the elementary class is dismissed at 2:15 p.m. and the primary and toddler classes are dismissed at 2:30 p.m. Congestion can be prevented if parents of the younger groups wait until 2:20 or 2:25 to arrive. This allows the cars for the elementary children to move on out of the way.

From Ms. Lisa

How can it be February already???? My first thought is that it is not possible, and then I think about all we have learned in the Elementary classroom since returning after the holidays.

The Upper Elementary children have completed a detailed study of the Southeast Region. This is always a favorite as all the children can really relate! We are currently learning about our Constitution and The Bill of Rights, and within the next few days you should be hearing all about the Preamble. In math, it is all about fractions.....improper fractions, mixed fractions, simplifying fractions, the four operations with fractions.....I think you get the idea ;) In language we are exploring what we need to write a good paragraph. We are writing topic sentences with supporting details! Geometry is all about angles at the moment.

The Lower Elementary children are learning the names of the countries in each continent, working on state reports, and studying Native Americans. In math we are learning all about Fact Families, multiples, fractions, and progressing through the four operations at an individual pace. In language, we are working through the parts of speech, plurals, antonyms, and paying great attention to punctuation in our written work. Geometry is so much fun.... we are exploring symmetry, finding shapes and angles in our environment, and learning about the Imperial Measuring System.

Science is so exciting! January's enrichment included dissecting owl pellets, observing Protozoa under the microscope, and the hair-raising experience of learning about static electricity!

I am confident that February is going to be another great month!