

Montessori Academy Newsletter



Volume 7, Issue 2

February 2017

Upcoming Events

Community Day
March 4th

**Pre-registration Begins for
the 2017/18 School Year**
March 6th

**Parent/Teacher
Conferences**
March 7th - 17th

**Georgia Aquarium
Field Trip**
March 22nd

Spring Break
April 3rd - 7th

Book Fair
April 17th - 21st

Spring is in the air. Although the calendar still says winter, we have certainly had some beautiful spring like weather. We are also getting some much needed rain. While we are not as fond of the rain when we have to stay inside to play, our garden has been loving it. The collard greens, spinach and lettuce have been growing like crazy compared to the first two months where there was almost no rain and they only grew about 2 or 3 inches. As we approach spring, the days are growing longer which means our chickens have been busy laying, laying and laying more eggs. If you've never seen blue eggs before, you need to stop by the playground because our Americana chickens have been producing several light blue eggs.

We want to thank all of the families who came out to the Valentine's day tea. We had a great time and enjoyed some delicious treats. Thank you parents for supporting our activities.

Our next field trip is scheduled for Wednesday March 22. We will be going to the Georgia Aquarium. This will also be the first field trip for the children in the primary 1 class. We are so excited about the parent's enthusiasm in attending this trip and helping to make it

a safe and enjoyable trip for all of the children.

On Saturday March 4, we will have our second annual community day. Parents, if you haven't had a chance to come out and volunteer, this is a great opportunity to get your hours in and get to meet and work with other parents and children. We have a lot of project to work on both inside and on the playground. On the playground we have some repairs to make to some existing things, we have new things to build, a garden to clean out and prepare for planting, etc. We hope to see you all out there. There will be sign-up genius that will be sent out for items to donate if you would like to do so.

We will begin pre-registration for the next school year in March as well. You will receive an email with an electronic form to complete your child's pre-registration. If your child will be returning for the 2017-2018 school year, reserve your child's spot early. Your registration is complete when you submit the online form and your annual registration fee. This year as a bonus for submitting it early, you will save \$50. Registrations submitted after April 15 will go back to the full price. Get yours in early and save.

Parent teacher conferences for the toddler and primary classes will begin March 7. Be on the look out for the email to sign up for your conference. As always, parents are encouraged to have done some observation in their child's class prior to their conference so you will have a reference point during the conversation.

Spring break is coming!! **The Montessori Academy will be closed from April 3 to April 7 for Spring break.** We hope you all have a fab-

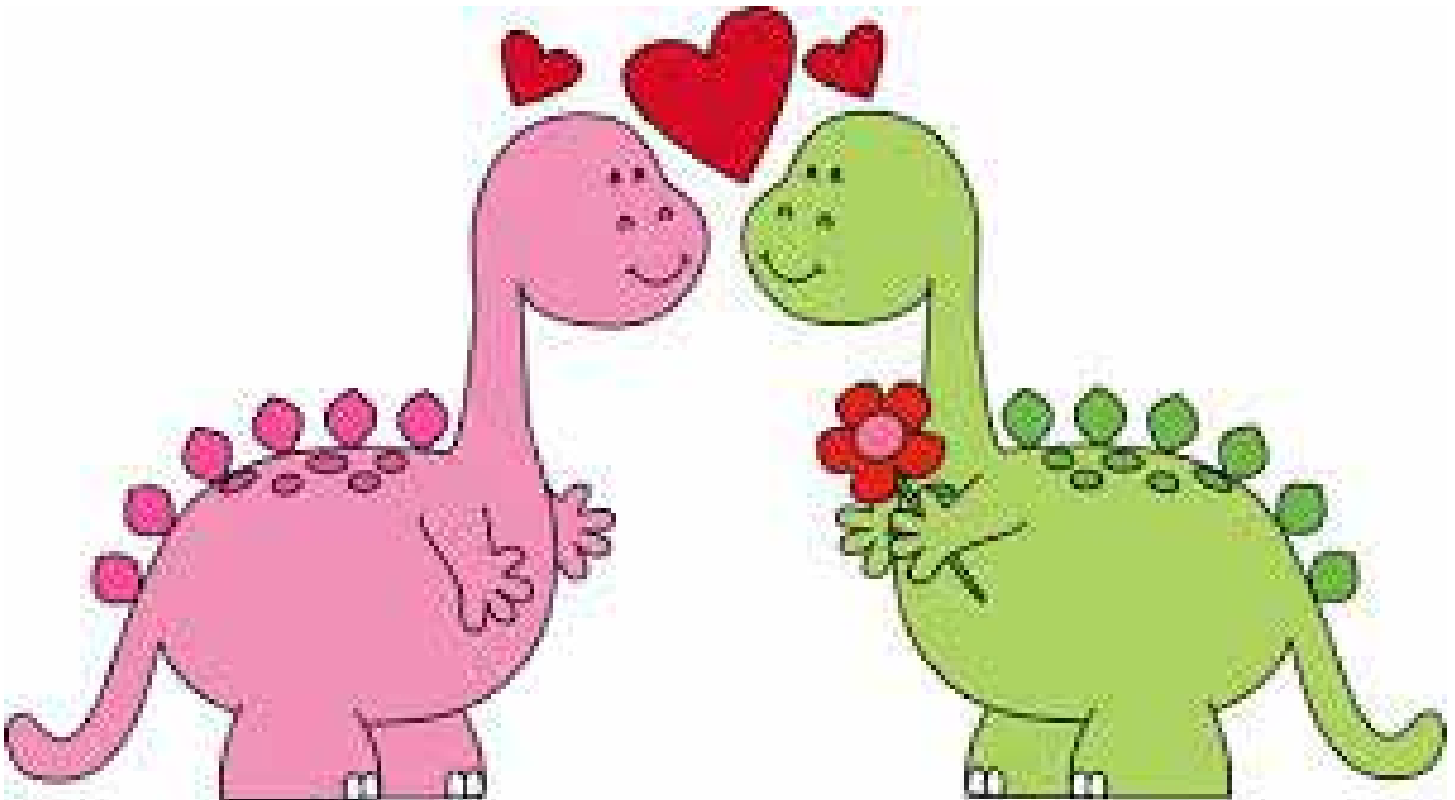
ulous week of rest and relaxation.

Finally our Camping-themed book fair will take place April 17 to the 21. Parents are invited to join us for the opening of our book fair as we will be (weather permitting) starting our day with a camp out where we can read books around the campfire while we drink hot chocolate.

Reminder: Parents when you walk into the building to drop your children off in the mornings, you must

walk your children all the way to their class. If it's after 8:30, parents, please don't walk into the classroom with your child. However, it is imperative that children are not in the building unsupervised. When your child leaves you, they must be in the care and supervision of another adult. Thank you for helping us keep your children safe.

Be sure to like our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/scott.montessori>



Did you know that there are over 25 billion chickens in the world? There are more chickens than any other bird species in the world. The chicken, *Gallus gallus domesticus*, is a domestic subspecies of the red junglefowl, a member of the pheasant family that is native to Asia. Genetic studies have found that the grey junglefowl also contributed to the chicken's evolution.

The chicken was probably first domesticated for the purpose of cockfights, not as food (ouch).

Yes, chicken can fly. They can get airborne enough to make it over a fence or into a tree. You probably don't have to worry about most backyard chickens flying too far from home since they typically don't go too far from their food especially with all of the predators out there.

Chickens are omnivores. They'll eat seeds and insects but also larger prey like small mice and lizards.

There are dozens of chicken breeds, such as the Dutch bantam,

leghorn and Rhode Island red. Foghorn leghorn, for those of you who remember Looney Tunes was a white Leghorn, one of the few breeds that lay white eggs). Baby chickens are chicks. Female chickens are called pullets until they're old enough to lay eggs and become hens. Male chickens are called roosters, cocks or cockerels, depending on the country you're in.

A rooster announces to a flock of chickens that he's found food with a "took, took, took." But the hens don't pay attention if they already know that there is food around. Roosters perform a little dance called 'tidbitting' in which they make sounds (food calls) and move their head up and down, picking up and dropping a bit of food. Researchers have found that females prefer males that often perform tidbitting and have larger, brighter combs on top of their heads.

Scientists think that the rooster's wattle—the dangly bit beneath his beak—helps him to gain a hen's attention when he is tidbitting. A female chicken will mate with

many different males but if she decides, after the deed is done, that she doesn't want a particular rooster's offspring and can eject his sperm. This occurs most often when the male is lower in the pecking order.

Avian influenza (a.k.a. bird flu) is extremely contagious and can make chickens very sick and kill them. The highly pathogenic form of the disease can kill off 90 to 100 percent of birds in a flock in just 48 hours.

And finally, which came first, the chicken or the egg? Well, all vertebrates have eggs, but the hardshelled variety first appeared among reptiles.

Read more: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/14-fun-facts-about-chickens-5848556/#iPog3QbvW22Kt5BP.99>

Infant Room 1 News with Ms. Latrice

In Infant I we have been talking about African American Heritage Month. Each day we studied African American inventors such as George Washington Carver, the peanut man, and Madame C J Walker who invented hair products such as the hot combs and pomade. We also learned about

some African folk tales and songs.

In honor of Valentine's day, the "love" month, each day we talked about loving hands and nice touches.

We also would like to open our hearts and welcome two children

to the infant community: Andrew and Amari

Congratulations on Chase Carter, Fox Loveall, and Oluwatobi Obajuluwa transitioning to Infant II. Kudos to our newest crawlers Alice Jones & Ezra Zimmerman.



Our lessons this month were on families. The children are pointing to their parents on the family photo wall. We also played a matching game by placing pictures of family members inside a circle, square, and triangle. We described who is in the shape. The children learned about love for Valentine's Day through several activities including

painting with paintbrushes during art.



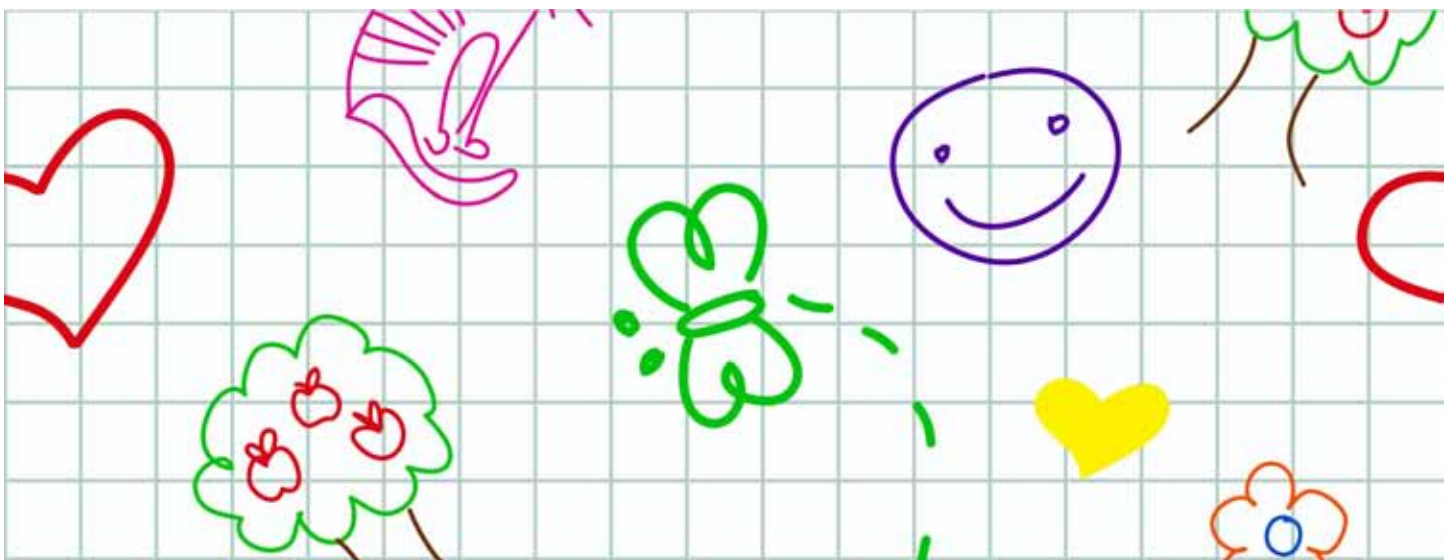
Milestones: Congratulations to Archer who is walking. Way to go! Infant II students are using more words and sign language. Great job!

Attention Parents: Please be sure to label all jackets, clothing,

socks, shoes, food, and bottles/cups with your child's name. Our class could use more grocery bags for soiled clothing.

Thanks for all you do!

Look at the smiles in Infant 2...



In our toddler class, your children have been busy, busy, busy! We've been working on learning new signs. These signs include: share, water, thirsty, stop, no, look, and voice. I'm extremely happy with the interest that the children are showing and the progress that they're making.

As always, we implement our manners and continue to encourage the students to "use their words" versus crying, screaming, hitting, etc. As parents, you all can encourage your children to do this at home as well. Some key phrases we use are, "no thank you", "may I",

"please", and of course "thank you".

Some of you may start to hear your child(ren) use the phrase "walk away" quite often. Don't be alarmed, this is something we say (as well as teach the children to say) in the classroom to express I would like you to leave my personal space. For example; if a child is using work and another child walks up to them and tries to take it, or if a child would just like to be left alone; we teach them to say "No thank you,

please walk away."

Thank you to everyone who has requested to be a part of our PRIVATE toddler Facebook page! It's truly a pleasure to be able to showcase your children while they are hard at work! I will continue to post important dates, reminders, and OF COURSE those SUPER adorable photos!!



Toddler Class Adventures in Learning





I think all of you got the good news. Yay! Our class is ready for the field trip. We are all so excited about going to the aquarium. I would specially like to thank all the parents for there tremendous support and enthusiasm.

We have been doing lots of new things in the class. The children are becoming familiar with people with special needs or disabilities. We are also discussing different

tools and machines and what they are used for. The children are also learning about the things in the library, things in the playground, things at the beach etc.

I would also like to specially thank the parents for participating in the International day and

Valentines day. Looking forward to seeing you all at future events as well.



Primary 1 Hard at Work



The primary two classroom would like to extend our thanks to all who came out for the Valentine's day tea. We hope you enjoyed the yummy treats and look forward to doing it again next year.

Parent teacher conferences are coming. Please take some time to observe your child's classroom. If you received a copy of the handout



called "The Pink WHAT??" take a few moments to review it so you will be more familiar with the materials your child may be using in the classroom. Also, check your child's cubby regularly to keep up with things like their math and handwriting efforts.

In honor of our field trip next month to the Georgia Aquarium we will get deeper into the study of the

oceans. We hope you can join us on this very educational experience. Please check the school calendar for the date of this trip.

Thank you to the parents who remind their children to wash hands upon entering the classroom. Did you notice at home that your child attempts to use a cloth or towel to turn off the water???? Good job guys!!!

Primary 2 Kids Growing And Learning







