

# Montessori Academy Newsletter



Volume 7, Issue 5

August 2017

## Director's Corner

Welcome back to school parents, teachers, and of course the children. We hope you all had a restful, relaxing, and fun summer. For those of you who spent your summer with us, thank you and we hope you had fun, and for those of you who are returning from May when the school year ended, welcome back, we missed you all summer.

The children are off to an amazing start for the school year. We have so many fun and exciting learning activities this year for both you and your children.

August is proving to be the month to cook. The toddler, primary 1 and primary 2 classes have all been busy, busy, busy, cooking healthy meals and snacks for the school. When we cook, all the children have an opportunity to participate whether it's cracking eggs, holding the hand mixer, measuring ingredients, stirring, scooping, etc. Perhaps when you're cooking breakfast during the weekend or dinner in the evenings, you can invite your child to help so they

can show you the skills they have been learning.

Speaking of food, on **Wednesday, August 23 we will have our muffins for mom celebration.** This is just one way we like to say thank you for supporting our program, our teachers, and our school. We would not exist if it were not for you and your wonderful children.

Thank you to all of the parents who attended the mandatory Parent Orientation session at the beginning of the month or one of the make up sessions. If you have not attended either of these or made arrangements to meet with me

individually, please call or email to set up a time to go through your orientation.

Classroom observations are underway. The children have had a few weeks to settle into class and their routine. All parents are encouraged to come in during the children's work cycle to observe how the classroom operates and to see the children working. Parents, please remember when you come in to observe, it is just that. Please note, this is not the time to talk

## Upcoming Events

**Muffins for Mom**  
August 23rd

**Labor Day**  
September 4th  
School Closed

**Parent Education Night**  
September 7th  
4:45 - 6:00 PM

**Doughnuts for Dads**  
September 19th  
School Closed

**Scholastic Book Fair**  
October 16th - 20th



to your child's teacher or ask questions. The teacher needs to devote her attention to the children while she is in class. If there are things you would like to discuss with your child's teacher based on what you observed in the classroom, please make a note of if and set up a time outside of class when the teacher is not with the children to discuss your questions. All parents should set up a time to observe in their child's class prior to the **first parent teacher conference which will take place mid October.**

During the orientation session on 8/1, we discussed communication

and what was the best ways we can communicate with the parents. Based on some of the feedback from these conversations, we are going to try to use the app "Remind". Some of you are already familiar with Remind as several schools use this to communicate with parents. Remind will send our a short text message reminding you about an upcoming event, something your child needs for class, a quick update about classroom happenings, etc. As with email, it will be used sparingly so we do not overwhelm your inbox. We understand how busy you all are but want to find an effective

way to communicate with the parents.

Parents please remember we will be closed on **Monday, September 4 in observance of Labor Day.**

The first **parent education night will take place Thursday, September 7 from 4:45 to 6:00 pm.**

We will have **Doughnuts for Dads on Thursday, September 19.**

The **Scholastic Book Fair is coming from October 16 though October 20.** Please come out and support our fair.

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

## So Many Siblings









It's that time again when school begins, and we say goodbye to our old friends and hello to new ones. It's when we teachers can look back at our children on the first day and see the tremendous growth each child has accomplished throughout the year. This year we will be implementing some new and exciting lesson plans where each parent can follow and participate in the week's lesson at home. Each week parents will receive notification about a skill that we've been working on in class with your child that you can reinforce by working on at home. We also want to continue our lending library program that we started last year. This helps us to increase the variety of the books we read in class. We are asking a different parent each

week to lend our class five (5) new books to read. Parents can check the books out of the library or you can select books you have at home to loan to your child's class for one week. In class the teachers will read the books to the children, discuss additional topics based on the reading, and plan other projects based on the reading.

Infant I welcomes five new additions to our family: First our special princesses Harper, sisters Eliana & Mikayah, and Leah and lastly, our prince Cameron.

Congratulations to our newest crawler Nalani Hill.

Congratulations to our newest self-feeders Harper and Andrzej.

### Hot Topic

Parents please remember to label your child's pacifiers. If you take your child's pacifier home and bring back a different one, please make sure it has a label prior to leaving it at school. We only need one or two pacifiers at school for your child. If you have more than that, you can take the additional ones home.

### Reminders:

- Each child should have at least three outfits in their cubby at all times.
- Infant feeding plans need to be updated every three (3) months or as your child's diet changes.

## Infant I Growing and Learning



This month's theme is "All About Me". We're learning about the children's families, favorite meals, toys, pets, places to go and things to do. The children are saying their names and the names of their classmates. The children are also learning to ask for what they want by using words and sign language, including eating, more, all done, help, please, and thank you.

Some of the children have begun learning to fold laundry, clean, put away the toys, and place our bowls, utensils, cups, and bibs on the counter/sink area after meals. During music the children enjoy playing the piano, tambourine, and maracas. The children are also enjoying clapping, singing, dancing, following directions, sharing, and

taking turns. We have been working on reading our books while learning to turn the page and not rip them or eat them. You would probably be surprised at how much skill and determination it takes to not eat the books we read. We have introduced some new materials in the classroom to help assist those children who are nearing transition. These materials and manipulatives encourage the children to use their imagination, be creative, and emphasize their social skills, self discovery, problem solving, and physical skills. They are getting practice taking materials off of the shelf, use them, and return them to the shelf before picking up something else. These are some of the skills they will need when they

transition to the toddler classroom.

As always, we continue to talk with the children and share messages such as hands are not for hitting and biting hurts our friends. We use our hands to wave, share, and give high fives.

Parents, please remember to label all food containers and cups on the top and bottom of the container because several of the children have the same Tupperware.

I want to thank you all for the family pictures and All About Me posters. If you haven't already submitted them, please continue to send those in this month.

## Look at the smiles in Infant 2...





As we say "hello" to another school year, we'd like to welcome back our old friends and extend a warm welcome to our new friends. Hello to Annie, Wagner, Lauren, and Leo!!

The toddlers are off to a GREAT start this year. We've covered so many lessons in such a short time, it's amazing. That alone lets me know your children are EAGER to learn!! Lessons that

we have covered so far are: grace and courtesy (please and thank you, no thank you, and nice table manners), how to sit in group, how to roll a work rug, using our

words to express our feelings, learning to give our friends space and respect while they are working, walking around our friend's workspace versus on/through it, and last but definitely not least

exercising PATIENCE. See?? Your children have been REALLY busy!!

At circle time, we've been talking about our letters in English and Spanish as

well as what sound each letter makes. Also, we're learning our basic manners in the form of sign language. We've covered "please", "thank you", "you're welcome",

"more", and "all done". We've talked a lot about people with different capabilities (wheelchairs, hearing aids, leg braces, walkers, canes, walking sticks, etc.) and how it's okay to be different.

If you haven't already done so, check out our PRIVATE Facebook page entitled MASB Toddlers as well as our classroom wish list. Please remember to check your child's green bin and coat hook at the end of each day.

I look forward to being an important part of each and every one of your children's lives. Thank you for entrusting me with your precious gifts!!













Welcome parents. The excitement of the year has started. Just a few quick reminders. Please label all your child's belongings before bringing them to school. Please check your child's cubbies at the end of the day. The work cycle starts at 8:30 please try and bring your child on time.

This year we will be doing a lot of cooking projects. We already made apple sauce muffins and yellow cake. Yum yum.

We have also planned a lot of after care activities like printing, pasting, story telling, introducing children to different musical instruments and a lot more.

We have been having discussions about different times of the day, things in the swimming pool, things on the farm and shapes in our circle time.

As always thank you so much for all your help and support. It is always appreciated.

## Primary 1 Hard at Work





As we continue our session on class rules and fire safety, the children are learning about community helpers. The goal of this unit is to teach the children about important people in our community, about their prospective jobs, about the fact that both men and women can hold these jobs, and that people of all ages can perform these jobs. We will also focus on keeping our bodies healthy and about nutrition as we wrap up our "all about me" theme.

Cooking is in full effect in the primary communities. We have made our first batch of muffins, or-

ganic yellow cake and have begun tasting different kinds of breads from the bakery. We will attempt to make our own lunch soon with a hearty batch of vegetarian chili in slow cookers. The children have had the opportunity to take the eggs from the hen house and incorporate them into cooking projects.

As the outside heat continues, much of our playground time will be done early in the morning or before noon. Please check the drawers in the classroom to make sure your child has sunscreen and/or bug spray. Also check to make

sure your child's water bottle is in good condition. We take them to the playground daily.

Please remember to check cubicles regularly. We have begun projects such as sewing, art and geometry where the children are discussing various shapes and cutting them out.

Lastly, hand washing is in full effect. Thank you parents in advance for helping the children to count to 20 or sing their favorite song while lathering up with antibacterial hand soap upon entering the classroom.

## **Primary 2 Kids Growing And Learning**







"Education cannot be effective unless it helps a child open up himself to life."

-Maria Montessori

*Maria Montessori*

The Discovery of the Child, pg. 50