

Montessori Centres

February 2012 Newsletter



The study of love and its utilization will lead us to the source from which it springs, The Child. – Maria Montessori



Valentine's Day Party

Both classes will have Valentine's Day parties on Friday, February 13th. The **Pre/K party** will be from 9:00-11:00a.m. If you have a Pre/K student, please send in a sturdy box (shoe, cereal, etc.) by Monday, February 9th. Your child will decorate the box during the party. Children do distribute Valentines to each other. We encourage children to sign their own Valentines — great name-writing practice! We always appreciate parent volunteers at this party, so please let Miss Lydia if you're able to help. Party treat sign-up is in the back of the classroom. The **Primary class party** will be from 1:30-3:30p.m. Parent volunteers are welcome. A sign-up sheet is located on the front bulletin board.

President's Day Reminder



School will be closed on Monday, February 20th, in recognition of President's Day.

Enjoy the three-day weekend!



Pennies for Patients

Dr. Montessori encouraged children to be involved in their community. To that end, we try to provide the children with at least one fundraising opportunity. This year's fundraiser benefits the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. We will send mite boxes home with the children on Friday, February 3, 2012. From February 6–February 24 we encourage children to put any spare change into the mite box. We will collect all mite boxes the week of February 27th and give our "Pennies to Patients." We hope that all our families will use this opportunity to teach children to count change and talk about the ways that even small things – and small people – can make a very big difference.



Student Teacher

Most of you know Mrs. Castleman, the parent volunteer you often see in the office during the morning work period. What you may not know is that Mrs. Castleman is working on a Masters in Education in Montessori Integrative Learning with certification for



the 6-12 age group. She is in her last semester of coursework, which means ... student teaching! Mrs. Castleman will be student teaching in Mrs. McShea's classroom beginning this month during the morning work period and continuing through May. We are all very excited to work in training a new teacher and Mrs. Castleman is very excited to be working with the children.

Lunch Items

This is a sweet time of year, and it is tempting to include candy, Jell-O or other sugary treats in your child's lunch. Unfortunately, the children overall are not responding well. Many of the older students are

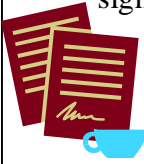
sneaking candy from their lunches or eating the sweets first and then losing their appetites for the rest of their meal. We have also noticed that many of our students' moods are adversely affected by foods that are processed and/or include

red and yellow food dyes. Please **DO NOT** include candy in your child's lunch. We will not take candy away from them, but we will be sending it home. Thanks for your help.



2012/2013 School Year Contracts

Seems like school just started, but it's already time to start thinking about next year. Contracts for the 2012/2013 school year will be sent to our current students after the 15th of February. In order to guarantee your child's spot in the classroom, you will need to return the signed contract and first month's tuition no later than March 15th. Open enrollment begins on April 1, at which time we will fill the classes on a first come, first served basis. We are aware that the economy has created challenges for many of our families. For that reason, we **will not be raising tuition for the coming school year.**



Optional Enrichment Week

March 26-March 30

In order to hold our optional Enrichment Week during the first week of Spring Break, we must have at least 10 children registered. The cost of the week is \$175.00. If you are planning on your child attending this week, we must have a \$75.00 deposit from you for each child attending no later than Friday, February 24, 2012. Please contact Mrs. Boone with questions.



Evelyn Froehlich

July 2, 1921–January 11, 2012



Evelyn Froehlich -- Mrs. Boone's mother as well as the founder of Montessori Centres - - passed away on January 11, 2012. We are all very grateful for the good and extensive work Mrs. Froehlich accomplished during her lifetime.

Summer Camp

Hard as it may be to believe, we're already making plans for our summer camp! This year's camp will run from July 9, 2012 through August 3, 2012. We will have more information to you at the end of March, but we will definitely be partaking in one session of swimming lessons at Broad Ripple Park. Summer camp is open to the community for children who are at least 3 years old and potty-trained.



Pre/K wish list

The pre/k class has need of the following items:

- Empty dish soap bottles
- Baby food jars with lids

We also need Clean, empty containers in the following sizes:

- Pint
- 1/2 pint
- Quart
- 1/2 gallon
- gallon



Montessori Community Open House



During the last week of February the United Montessori Schools of Indiana (UMSI) sponsors a statewide Montessori open house. We are open for visits the entire week, so if you have friends or family members who are interested in Montessori, please invite them to call for an appointment.

A BIG Thank You to

All parents who gave holiday gifts and/or donations to the school.
Mr. and Mrs. McKinney for the HUGE television.
All families who sent condolences to Mrs. Boone.
Mrs. Bearden for the classroom supplies.
Mrs. King for donating books to the classroom.
Mrs. Angotti for the manual pencil sharpener.
Mrs. Zumbiel for the electric pencil sharpener and the books for the classroom.

Wind Chill

We have had a mild winter so far, but we don't know yet what February will bring. Your child's safety is our first concern. For that reason, we not only close school for inclement weather but also if the wind chill reaches -20. Please check your local news stations for closing information.



Tomorrow's Child, a magazine directed toward Montessori parents is our gift to you. The January issue has some of the best explanations of the Montessori materials we've seen. We encourage you to take the time to read through the issue that was sent home with your child.

