
The Montessorian

November 30, 2012

Nurturing the hearts, minds and spirit of children and adults for 33 years!

Calendar

- Dec. 3 Snack Week for Wyatt Wang-Slate, Nathaniel Shuhan and Ema Fallon
- Dec. 5 Board Meeting 4:15
- Dec. 6 EAC Winter Concert, Hanger Theatre 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 7 Holiday Bazaar
- Dec. 8 Primary Parent Workshop, **Montessori: Connecting Home and School**
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., contact the office for more information
- Dec. 13 Ski Club meeting for parents and children 4:30 p.m. in the mini-gym
- Dec. 17 Middle School Trip to Target
- Dec. 20 Festival of Light
- Dec. 21- Jan 1 **NO SCHOOL - Holiday Break**
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Lost and Found

The weather is getting chillier and you may be looking for that coat or pair of gloves you really like. They might be here in the **LOST AND FOUND** jumble in the front hall of our main building. Please stop by and look through all the items in our collection any time you are at the school.

We will be having a special day to browse through the collection in our **mini-gym on Friday morning December 14th between 8:30 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.** Any items not claimed after that day will be donated.

Help your “lost ones” find their way home.



Junior Level Art News from Jeff

Our young artists have been learning about Line and Texture through prepared works introduced in the Art Studio, and then practiced in the classroom.

In the Art Studio these "works" are introduced, practiced and later made available to students on special art shelves located in their classrooms. I want students to practice art skills at least 1/2 hour or more a week. Practice at home also supplements the art curriculum, and can be facilitated by setting up an area with good pencils that range from hard to soft (even a 9b), woodless graphite pencils, a set of good colored pencils or their woodless conte crayon-like cousins, a good, solid hand held sharpener, a reasonably good watercolor set, and a pad of good bristol or watercolor paper as well as access to printer paper of various sizes (including legal and 11 x 17" poster size). A local art store or art chain such as AC Moore or Michael's, or Dick Blick's online are good sources for materials. Dependent upon each individual child's capacity for integrating art into their home life, being able to create art on a regular basis can be a great way to express oneself and develop concentration. Easy availability to simple materials on a regular basis and enthusiastic support for all creative efforts is an essential part of your child's growth. Even if you are not an art practitioner, like your child, it is really quite beautiful to sit down and be with your child sharing creative efforts in a parallel supportive way. It is even good to work together on the same piece collaborating on the whole or even a small section. Have fun with it, follow your child's imaginary leaps and follow your own as well!

The classroom "works" emphasize the Elements of Art and skill building. To complement and help synthesize art concepts, students also create larger projects. Junior Level art students are now finishing "Texture Masks". This project explored the use of multiple textures to create a single image of a masked face into an imaginary animal; cat, bird or even an insect like an imaginary flea!

In December students are going to explore line and shape as they relate to space in lessons based on the sculptural artworks of Alexander Calder called "mobiles". Calder is often credited with inventing this wonderful art form. I am told, by enthusiastic students, that there is an excellent book on Calder geared to young readers, called "The Calder Game". Because Calder created toys for a performance, his circus, there also are wonderful books and videos available. This sequence will be complemented with paper sculpture experiments.





Movement Matters

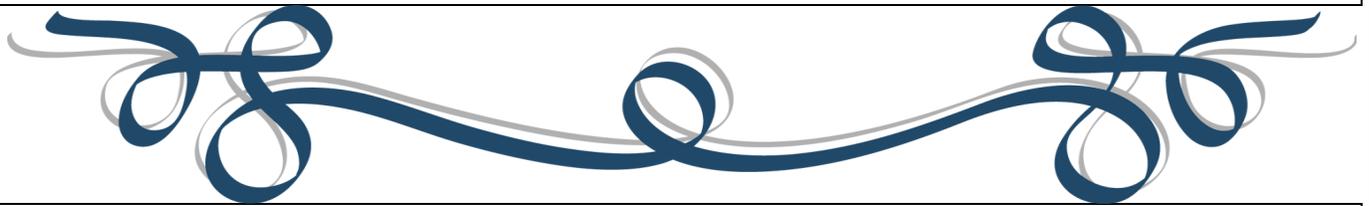
Each week our full day primary students receive movement lessons in the mini- gym. The children are having fun while learning and practicing Fundamental Movement Lessons. Children are asked to specifically ‘notice’ what a teacher’s feet are doing at the *walk*, and then practice walking beautifully. When walking, the children know that each foot must have time on the ground, and that each foot must roll from the heel to the toes. We play ‘All Follow the Line’ and walk slowly, quickly, at a low level, a high level, and backwards! Each class has learned the concepts of stop and go, freeze, and self-space. The children have also been introduced and have ‘noticed’ the qualities of the *jump* and the *run*. A favorite game is ‘Hoop Bus’, played while holding a hula-hoop around the waist, and moving through the mini-gym. The children say “beep beep” as they move around the gym slowly dodging, turning and moving through the space without touching another child. Hula hoops are one of our children’s favorite pieces of equipment. We play ‘Hoop Right Through’ and practice naming and putting parts of our bodies through the hoop.

We have also played the game ‘Sock Plows.’ Each child is given a pair of socks to put on their hands as they push colored sticks, while on their hands and knees, across the gym to colored, matching houses. Some children push with their hands while walking on their feet, some slide along on their bottoms, some crawl on hands and knees, some slither like snakes! Each game allows for movement exploration, practice of movement patterns and the opportunity to practice listening and following directions while in a large group. Our weekly movement lessons are supported in the classrooms with movement materials placed on a shelf. These materials give children the opportunity to practice gross motor movements in a purposeful way in the classroom!

Thank You

The Primary and Extended Day classes give special thanks for our beautiful All School Thanksgiving celebration. With the help of several parents, 70 children worked together to prepare a vegan Shepherd's Pie for our community.

Thank you to:
the parents who helped us,
the youth Farm Project for donating all the vegetables,
Cornell Cooperative Extension for the use of their kitchen,
and Allyn Rosenbaum for coordinating it all!



Thank You

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is a United Nations Program headquartered in New York City, that provides long-term humanitarian and developmental assistance to children and mothers in developing countries. It is one of the members of the United Nations Development Group and its Executive Committee. UNICEF was created by the United Nations General Assembly on December 11, 1946, to provide emergency food and healthcare to children in countries that had been devastated by World War II.

As part of our long-standing tradition, many children collected money for UNICEF during their trick-or-treating activities. Our Junior Level students sorted and counted all the money. **A total of \$664.56 was raised for UNICEF.**

This is a wonderful expression of the giving nature of our community. Thank you to all of our families, friends and neighbors.



Pizza Lunch

Pizza lunch for the spring term will begin on Friday, January 6th. Lunches for the remainder of the year are \$76.00. If you already paid for the entire year, then no payment is necessary. If you do need to pay, please give your payment to the office by Thursday, January 5th. After the second week in January, no add-ons will be permitted, nor will it be possible to purchase pizza for just one Friday. Refunds will not be made as this is a fundraiser for the Upper Level May trip to Williamsburg.



Holiday Bazaar

The Holiday Bazaar is Friday, December 7th. This event is an opportunity for Extended Day, Junior Level and Upper Level children to purchase gifts for family members at bargain prices! Our Middle School students in cooperation with The Advocacy Center will sponsor a local family in need and the proceeds from our Bazaar will support this effort.

We ask each family to search their home for “treasures” (unused items...white elephants) that can be donated to the Bazaar. **In considering a particular treasure, ask yourself if you would like to receive it as a gift.** All items will be priced at an affordable level (between 50 cents and a few dollars). In previous years, we've noticed that there is a shortage of items for adult men (dads, grandfathers, uncles...). If you have items to share in that category that would be especially nice.

The children look forward to this event because they can participate in the holiday spirit of giving, making choices for their loved ones by themselves, at prices they can afford! Please bring all donated items to the main office at Montessori beginning on **Monday, December 3rd**. Please do not bring items before that date, due to lack of storage space.

We would appreciate **parent volunteers** to come in and assist our Middle School students as they sort and price items and also act as shopping and packing assistants. This event is full of Montessori spirit and is well worth an afternoon of your time if you are able to be with us! The Bazaar will be held **Friday, December 7th at 1:00 p.m.**

Music News from Ryan

Please join us for the Winter Concert.

**EACMSI Winter Concert
Thursday, December 6, 7PM
Hangar Theater**

Featuring performances from:

Beginning Band
Junior Band
Concert Band
Percussion Ensemble
Junior Level "Lion" Chorus
Upper Level Chorus
Middle School Chorus



PINE BOUGHS PLEASE

*We need lots of pine boughs for our
Festival of Light celebration!*

*If you are able to help, please bring them to the
school and leave them outside by the gym door.
We do need quite a bit to make this happen...so
save your tree trimmings!*

Thank you!





DIG THIS!

Attention EAC families! If you see construction vehicles or workers on campus in the coming days and weeks, don't be surprised. We're preparing for something big!

For many years we've been dreaming about completing our campus with a new building to comfortably accommodate our current enrollment and programming...and we're getting really close to fulfilling that dream!

We'll be making an important announcement at the Winter Concert at the Hangar Theatre on December 6th at 7:00 p.m, and we hope to see you there. But if you can't join us for the live announcement, just check the December 7th edition of The Montessorian for the big news.

If you have any questions, please contact Pete Browning, Board President, petebrowning@verizon.net.

Acorn Designs

Dear EAC Montessori Families,

The Middle School would like to remind you that Acorn Designs order forms are due Monday, December 10th. We sent catalogs and order forms home with children on Friday, November 16th. If you have not seen your catalog, perhaps it is in your child's backpack. We will be processing your orders and sending them home to you by Wednesday, December 19th.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this opportunity. Proceeds of this sale will support second year Middle School students' April trip to Costa Rica.

The Middle School

PS—We regret that this year's orders will not be available in time for Hannukah.

COFFEE ORDER FORM

If you liked the coffee at our recent Coffee Shop and wondered if you could drink it every day at home, you're in luck! Ordering organic, shade grown, Fair Trade coffee, freshly roasted by the Vermont Coffee Company, couldn't be easier. Fill out the form below and submit it to the office by **Monday, December 10th**. Your order will be available for pick up at our next Coffee Shop on **Thursday, December 13**. We hope you can make our Coffee Shop, but if you can't, we would be happy to send your order home with your child.

Available Blends:

Trés Mariposas - The name translates as "three butterflies." It is a full-bodied, whole-bean coffee with a rustic, nut-like character and sweet floral aroma.

Alta Gracia - A single origin coffee grown in the Dominican Republic. Expect a heady fragrance; a rich, full body; and a medium acidity that gives brightness to the flavor.

Ralston Roast DECAF™ - (RRDecaf) a blend featuring similar origins and characteristics as our flagship coffee, the best of the coffee. Using the Swiss Water Process, only the caffeine is removed.

Please make your check payable to:

EAC Montessori School of Ithaca Adolescent Program

If your child wishes to sell coffee to friends or family, they can do so using the order form below or by obtaining another order form from the Middle School.

Coffee Order Form

Name: _____

Child's name and classroom _____

Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Email: _____

Total bags of Trés Mariposas x (\$12.00): _____

Total bags of Alta Gracia x (\$12.00): _____

Total bags of Ralston Roast Decaf x (\$13.00): _____

Total: \$ _____

Thank you for your support!