

Children's Circle Montessori

Established 1981

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MOVING ON...

The end of the school year has approached so quickly! As Diane and I reflect back on the school year, there have been amazing changes in all the children. We never cease to watch the child in wonder, from the youngest child (18 months old) who was struggling to carry the work activities to a table or rug but is now running confidently across the playground, to the kindergarten child who, at the beginning of the year, was still learning the sounds of the letters but is now reading a book with confidence.

One of Montessori's strongest messages is "Follow the child". At times, our message from society is to do just the opposite. We are sometimes encouraged to shelter the child too much, or we are encouraged to push them into activities they are not developmentally ready for. This is our most difficult task--to follow the child and put aside our own wants while letting the child develop at their own pace--maybe that is ahead of some children in their age group--maybe that is behind some children in their age group. We also need to watch for signs to encourage the child to take the next challenge in an area.

But the Montessori environment (materials and guidance by the teachers) never lets us down. The kindergarten group we have this year is a perfect example. At the beginning of the school year there were some readers and non readers. Some children could write sentences, others were writing simple words. Some children could name the continents and some countries/states, others rarely touched the maps. Some children could do addition abstractly, others always needed counters.

But look at them now! All of them can read! This month we started writing in journals to encourage their writing skills. We are working on spacing, punctuation and writing in lower case, but all of them are writing sentences about their thoughts. All of them have made a map of the World and most have made at least one other map with the punching exercise. Several students can label the USA map of the states with all the names of the states (with no help!). All of the children have been introduced to addition with 4 place values ($1358 + 2571$), and division and multiplication. But more importantly, all of them know the importance of being a leader and how their behavior can affect others. They know about caring for others and caring for the world. They know the importance of peace and that they can make a difference in the world. And we are confident they will!

MARK YOUR CALENDERS!

Thursday, May 28th:

Last official day of the 2008-2009 school year

Friday, May 29th:

SCHOOL CLOSED ~ School picnic...fun for ALL!

Bethany Park, 66th and Vine ~ 10:30AM - 1:30PM

Monday, June 1st:

First official day of summer school

Monday, June 29th through Friday, July, 3rd:

SCHOOL CLOSED for summer break

Wednesday, August 5th through Friday, August 7th:

SCHOOL CLOSED for staff work days

Monday, August 17th:

First official day of 2009-2010 school year

THANK YOU!!

... to the many parents who contributed paper, facial tissues, disinfecting wipes, flowers, plants, birthday books and work activities to our classrooms throughout the school year. I would list them all individually but I am afraid I would leave someone out. They are all appreciated.

... to the drivers for our Primary 2 community field trips May 27th and 28th. Your help made the field trips possible.

... to all the parents and children who provided plants, tools, labor, bottled water, and snacks to make the 2009 Spring Work Day a success!

... to your kind words, notes, and small gifts for our staff through the year. They certainly make our work easier and always make us smile!

~ MAY BIRTHDAYS ~

Aubrey Letts	7 th	4 years old
Sam Gillespie	10 th	4 years old
Ella Noecker	13 th	5 years old
Mia Baker	14 th	2 years old
Molly McLane	18 th	4 years old
Sofi Kouma	21 st	4 years old

Thanks for the wonderful birthday books with pictures of the birthday child in them. They will be precious in the years to come!



Thank you!!



To assist a child we must provide him with an environment,
which will enable him to develop freely.

~Maria Montessori

