

Newsletter

November 2006, Volume 7, Issue 3

McMinnville



Montessori
School

Note from the Board

Dear Families,

Thank you to our teachers and staff for hosting our Parent night last month, as well as our Parent/Child tea this month. These events always give us an opportunity to learn more about Montessori methods and our school in general. As always, if you have questions – any questions at all, please ask – begin with your teacher, this will be the most complete way to get your information. Our teachers are available by email, phone, appointment, or drop ins at the beginning and end of each school day. They are happy to field your questions and concerns.

The board meets the first Wednesday of each month at the school, beginning at 5:30. Generally, meeting last 2 to 3 hours. Parents are always welcome to attend. We always have a place on the agenda for parent issues or concerns. Issues or questions aside, we like to have parent input. If you are unable to attend meetings, you can always contact any board member with your ideas or comments, and we always appreciate hearing from you.

Many thanks,
Kim Sapunar

Calendar of Events:

No School	Nov 10
Vision/Hearing testing	Nov 16
Fall Clean Up	Nov 18
Picture Re-Take	Nov 20
No School	Nov 22-23-24

Fall Cleanup!

November 18th, Saturday
9:30 – 1:00 pm

All help is welcome!!

Contact Brad Kelley with any
questions at: 503-881-1337
Or kelleyb21@wildblue.net



Parent Organization News

Parent Organization officers:
 Leslie Kelley, President
 BJ Larmouth, Vice President
 Andrea Bauer, Secretary
 Linda Scherf-Gardner, Treasurer

We had a great turn out at the Pumpkin patch, as well as fabulous sunny weather to enjoy.

Thank you all families who were able to attend, it was great to have an opportunity for visiting outside of school



Facilities Update:

As most of you can see, we have a new color at the school! The general consensus was that something a little brighter for these gray winter days would be nice. Glad it was finished before the rains really kicked in!

I need to give a belated thank you to Jack Grell, who also helped with the sand boxes. I can be a little absent minded at times and forgot to mention his help in the last letter. Sorry about that, your help is always appreciated!

Please thank an elementary student the next chance you get. They have been keeping the front area clear of leaves and have done an excellent job, which will help with the fall clean-up. Thanks Maria and students!

Recently the Carter family took on the tedious and thankless job of cleaning the gutters and downspouts in anticipation of the rain. They also cleaned the plant beds in the front. This was a big job and I am so thankful for their help. This too will really help with the fall clean-up.

Fall Clean-up!

Saturday, November 18, 9:30-1:00 AM

We will be raking and removing leaves, pressure washing the sidewalk, and caulking windows. If you have a rake or a caulk gun, please bring it as I can only supply one each. I'll bring the pressure washer and the actual caulk. Most everything else is in pretty good shape thanks to the efforts of our parents over the last 2 months. Thanks again for all your help and I hope to see you on Saturday!

Bradley Kelley
 Board Member

“Our care of the children should be governed not by the desire to ‘make them learn things’, but by the endeavor always to keep burning within them the light which is called intelligence.”

–Dr. Maria Montessori

Music

This term the focus in music is on singing, and Elementary children are learning new pieces to perform at Hillside Retirement Community (date not yet fixed) close to Thanksgiving. All children should have received a copy of the words to be memorized, either by email or in parents' folder at school.

In class the children have a booklet of music to read from, and so I am using these songs to help in learning to read music. As with most things, each child will master the art of reading music at his or her own speed, and so there is no pressure to 'get it' within a few weeks. We will also be using rhythm books regularly - and creating rhythm patterns using parts of the body, eg, slapping thighs, stamping feet, etc. In January the emphasis will switch to a more theoretical approach, learning the notes, intervals, etc, and also work on our binders for classical music. The 1st music group will be looking at the instruments of the orchestra, the 2nd group will look at composers, and the 3rd group will be looking at other aspects of music, such as different styles of music.

In Primary, the emphasis is to engage the children in singing games, and using pictures of animals in motion to help move the body in different ways to different music.

Both Primary and Elementary children will be regularly given the opportunity to play the unvoiced instruments, such as the triangle, bells, rhythm sticks, in time to music. It is very exciting to watch how the

children get used to hearing the rhythms of a certain piece of music and learn to beat in time.

Calendar note: The Elementary class will be traveling to Portland on March 1st for a children's concert given by the Oregon Symphony.

Sylvia

Please check your parent folder regularly at school. This is where newsletters, updates, and school info is given out to parents. Folders are located next to the bulletin board and the sign out list.

McMinnville Montessori

1101 Brook St.
McMinnville, OR 97128

Phone:
(503) 434-5081

E-Mail:
mcmont@viclink.com

Website:
www.mcminnvillemontessori.com

We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit

**Cultivating the Desire
to Learn**

*Please contribute to future newsletter issues.
Contact Kim Sapunar with your ideas and
articles.*

Board Members:

Kim Sapunar k.Sapunar@comcast.net
Bob Suchy boblaw@viclink.com
Amanda Marshall amanda.marshall@state.or.us
Dave Larmouth: DLarmouth@westernoregonwaste.com
Brad Kelley kellyb21@wildblue.net

Parent Organization Officers:

Leslie Kelley kellyb21@wildblue.net
BJ Larmouth bjlarmouth@hotmail.com
Linda Scherf-Gardner lindasmcm@yahoo.com
Andrea Bauer

Staff:

Maria Eustrom eustrom@yahoo.com
Leslie Scott iandiana@earthlink.net

School email: mcmont@viclink.com

McMinnville Montessori School
1101 Brooks Street
McMinnville, OR 97128