

# Newsletter

December 2009, Volume 10, Issue 3

McMinnville



## Note from the Board

Dear Families,

Many thanks to our teachers for hosting the Parent Child tea in November. This is always a great time for kids to direct their parents in the classroom and get a real look at what your child is learning every day.

I also want to acknowledge the ongoing support that the school has received from Evergreen. As a big community supporter, Evergreen has helped Montessori in many ways. Most recently, they provided landscaping materials to the school at a value of \$3,500. And of course, they are the main sponsor of our Valentine Dinner and Dance. Evergreen allows us to enjoy the Air Museum space for free, they provide onsite help and support during the event, they give us substantial discounts in the catering costs of the event, and allow us to solicit and invite their membership list. Without this generous support of our event, we honestly could not afford to host it each year. We thank Evergreen and Andrea Bauer, for making it happen for the school, and appreciate the role that Evergreen plays in the community.

That brings me again to my usual reminder – our biggest fundraiser of the year – The Valentine's Dinner and Dance is February 13th, Saturday – our most successful years are those in which our attendance is higher. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. If you know you cannot attend, send along someone who can. We are fortunate to have our event well attended by the local community as well as the Evergreen Museum membership, but we also want the visible support of our own families, as we ask for support from the community, we like to show that our own families are there front and center.

Big thanks to Diane and all who gave the school a great facelift in the landscaping and clean up. The place looks wonderful.

## Calendar of Events:

H1N1 Clinic	Dec 8
Picture Retake Day	Dec 10
P/T Conferences	Dec 11
Winter Celebration	Dec 17
Half Day, NO ASC	Dec 18
Winter Break	Dec 21-Jan 1
Board Meeting	Jan 6
Ice Skating	Jan 16

The Board meets each month and looks at the larger and administrative issues for the school. We are responsible for the budget and financial issues, long term goals, taxes, insurance and the like. We do our best as a Board to support our teachers in their classrooms. We honor both Maria and Leslie as our Montessori experts and help the school operate along those principles. Our current board members are Dave Larmouth, Amanda Marshall, Brad Kelley and myself. We invite all parents to attend any board meeting, or if you are unable to attend, to speak with any of us about ideas, issues or questions you may have about the school.

Our big event this month is the Winter Celebration, be sure to invite family and friends to see the musical presentation of our kids. It is always a wonderful evening. Thank you Sylvia Stater for all your hard work in organizing this program.

Many thanks,  
Kim Sapunar  
971-241-1423  
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## News from the Teachers

**PRIMARY** - One of the things often revealed in researching Montessori is how the class is divided into areas. We give these areas unexpected, big, long, fancy names like Math, Language, Practical Life, Sensorial, Expression, and Geography. Pretty straight forward, but what you might not suspect is Language encompasses all the areas.

Language for the Primary child is like air and water. Never doubt that the child takes in pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary like breathing air. This is the time in life when the child develops and strengthens the muscles for diction. They will repeat what they hear. By age 5, the majority of sounds are articulated correctly. By 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade all sounds should be in place.

**TIPS** - Children don and doff foot coverings everyday for walking on the line. Please have your child wear clothing that they can manage on their own.

Winter break is a perfect time to remove your child's extra change of clothing from their cubbies. Please replace with appropriate clothing when returning in January.

**ELEMENTARY** - The class is bustling with energy. The children are working on a variety of topics. You are always welcome to come and observe, just let me know a time that works for you.

Eugene Meya, who works for NASA, came to visit us. We spent the afternoon learning about what NASA does. The children asked many great questions. Thank you, Jon Steinhart, for this opportunity.

The first session of swimming is over. Thank you for helping with the transportation. I am happy to hear that many of the students have joined the swim team.

If you would like to help out with salad on Fridays, please let me know. We will begin again the first week of January.

**HALF DAY  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>  
EARLY DISMISSAL IS  
12-12:15PM  
NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

**HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY!**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Donation Thank You!

We received a \$ check from Intel for hours volunteered.

This is matching program for Intel employees, a wonderful benefit for the school.

Thank you, Intel Parents  
Julie Donnelly and Subha Pathial.

The Students of MMS would like to invite you to their

### ***Winter Celebration***

Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm  
@ First Christian Church  
(corner of Brooks & Three Mile Lane)

Refreshments immediately  
following the program

During the primary age the cuticles can begin to grow over the nail. This often creates some pretty painful hang nails, which makes this a good time to introduce how to gently push the cuticle back during the last part of their bath or shortly after drying.

"We especially need imagination in science. It is not all mathematics, nor all logic, but it is somewhat beauty and poetry." -- Dr. Maria Montessori

## News from the Parent Organization

The PO would like to say, "Thank You" to the Gardner Family for setting up our Bowling Social. It was great fun for all that attended! We have some amazing bowlers - several with very unique styles. It was not surprising to learn that several of our young bowlers had higher scores than some parents.

**ENVELOPE STUFFING HAS BEEN  
POSTPONED TO  
MONDAY, JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 5:30PM.  
CHILDCARE & PIZZA PROVIDED.**

Andrea Bauer, our Fundraising Chair will be there to discuss and assign other tasks that need to be accomplished for this wonderful fundraising event. Please plan to attend to learn more about the Valentine's Dinner & Dance and other fundraising jobs. This is a wonderful way to support our school and "chip away" at your volunteer hours.

An Ice Skating Social is scheduled for Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 - 3:30 pm at the Sherwood Ice Arena. This should be great fun for our Montessori Families and friends. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the foyer the first week in January. We look forward to this new winter social event!

Sue Delventhal  
PO President

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Friday, December 11th.  
No school or childcare on this day.

### On Line Shopping?

If you are shopping online for the upcoming holidays, please support the school by using one of our links to Escript or Amazon first. It is easy and doesn't cost you anything additional to your purchase. This is a great way for friends and family to also support the school that live outside the area, by shopping online. To ensure that your purchase is affiliated with the school, start at our website, [www.McMinnvilleMontessori.com](http://www.McMinnvilleMontessori.com). Choose the fundraiser page and click on either the Amazon or Escript logo. This takes you to their websites with an embedded link tied to the Montessori School. When you make your purchases as usual, the school is credited automatically, and will receive a quarterly check of the proceeds.

### School Closures/Winter Weather

As we start towards winter weather, if school is cancelled or delayed due to snow, see our website for updates. Closures will also be announce on our local radio station, KLYC 1260AM or KEX. Generally, we follow the McMinnville School District, if they close, we close.

Our school calendar is on our website:  
[www.mcminnvillemontessori.com](http://www.mcminnvillemontessori.com)

# **VALENTINE'S DINNER & DANCE**

SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> @ EVERGREEN AVIATION MUSEUM

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**Cultivating the Desire  
to Learn**

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

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**IMMUNIZATIONS** - Please remember when your child has received any immunizations, update our school records. It is important your child is "UP-TO-DATE" or "COMPLETE" on all immunizations. If you have any questions/concerns, please contact the school.

Here is a general outline of where to go if you have questions. Please also remember that the parent handbook outlines our school policies and recommendations. Each family received a handbook in their registration package, if you are missing one, please ask in the office for a new copy.

Of course, if you are simply not sure where to start, please begin with your child's teacher. In general, if you have questions about the classroom, for example: snacks, schedules, lunch food, activities, parent observation, clothing, wellness or illness, please ask your teacher. Our teachers are available mornings before class, during lunch or at the end of the class day. Feel free to talk to them, leave a message for them to call you back, email them, or set up an appointment to meet. They are flexible and will be happy to work with you and your schedule.

If you have a question about your SOS job (jobs to support the school and classrooms), please direct them to an officer of the Parent Organization.

If you have a question about the budget, school operations, long-term goals, or administration, please ask any member of the board.

For questions about your bill, please ask Tammy in the office.

We want to make sure you get the information you need, so please don't hesitate to ask!