

Children's House Montessori School
Newsletter
September 29, 2011



Lower Elementary students begin work on the class quilt for the Silent Auction

Volunteer Opportunity

Ms. Suzi is looking for a few volunteers that would be able to assist our students with stitching for the class quilts. Please see Ms. Suzi if you are able to help.

Lower Elementary
Kelly Park – October 7

The Lower Elementary class will go to Kelly Park on **Friday, October 7**. Kelly Park is located in Orange County, on State Road 435. The fee per person is \$5.00. **If you have not signed up to drive and are available, we still need a couple of drivers.**

Friday, October 7
DeLand YMCA Water Safety & Snorkeling Program

On Friday, October 7 our Upper Elementary and Middle School students will be going to the YMCA to practice water safety skills and snorkeling.

Grades 3 – 5 to FLRC October 11

Each October some of our elementary students accompany our music teacher Deborah DeGaetano to the nearby Florida Lutheran Retirement Center to perform at the October birthday celebration. This year students in grades 3 – 5 will walk to FLRC at 1 PM and will return to school before our 3 PM dismissal time.

Lower Elementary - Gillespie Museum

Grade three students enjoyed their trip to the Gillespie Museum on September 28. **Grade two students** will visit Gillespie on **October 12** and **grade one students** will complete the lower elementary group when they go on **October 20**.

The fee for this trip is \$2.00/student. This is just a short walk from school so no drivers will be needed for this field trip.

Upper Elementary & Middle School News

If all continues to go well our new classroom building will be ready for classes beginning Monday, October 17. To begin the process of setting up the rooms with furniture and materials, the students and parent volunteers will move their furnishings on Thursday, October 13

beginning at 12:00 noon. A sign-up sheet is posted on the office door, if you would like to assist.

**Friday, October 14
Alexander Springs**

Our Upper Elementary and Middle School students will visit Alexander Springs for snorkeling and hiking as part of their Florida Ecosystem studies. Details and permission slips for this trip are included in the packet of information regarding both October 7th and 14th trips.

Kindergarten Class Returns to Pioneer Settlement - October 14

The kindergarten class will return to the Pioneer Settlement on October 14. During this trip they will step back in time to learn survival skills of the PIONEER lifestyle. A permission slip is being sent home today. Please indicate on the form if you will be driving. Fee for this trip is \$5.00.

**Cosmic Coffee Parent Seminar
Tuesday, October 18 at 8:30 AM**

On Tuesday morning October 18 Helen Joseph will offer the first in a series of parent education opportunities. Ms Helen will be discussing Montessori in the Home – encouraging independence - for parents of toddler and primary children. We plan to meet in the Fellowship Hall with coffee and light refreshments.

**Elementary Parent Education Night
Tuesday, October 25 at 7 PM**

Tim and Sandy Conner, teachers of our upper elementary class will be offering a class for parents of elementary and middle school students with the topic of “Raising a Responsible Child.” The program will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 7 PM. Child care will be available.

School Photos (Colored Shots) – Wednesday, October 26

Steve Simoneau will be here on Wednesday, October 26 to take color school pictures. These are posed individual photos. Proofs and photo packet information will be available at a later date.

**Halloween Parade and Carnival
Friday, October 28th**

The children will be participating in a Halloween Parade and Carnival here at Children’s House. The children should arrive in their costumes. We will begin the morning with a Parade of Costumes around the parking lot. This usually happens about 8:45 AM-as soon as the children have arrived. Bring your cameras! The children will then gather to sing a few songs. Following this, they will return to the classrooms for special activities. The toddler, primary and lower elementary classes will take turns visiting the Halloween Carnival in the Fellowship Hall.

At the carnival, there will be simple games of skill for the children. Each child will receive a prize at each game. (Children wearing cumbersome costumes that would prevent them from playing should bring a change of clothes.) Because of space limitations, only those parents supervising games will be able to attend the carnival.

When helping plan your child’s costume, please remember that we have little ones and costumes should not be too scary. **For the safety of our primary children, if their costume has any weapon-like accessories (sword, laser, gun, etc.), please leave that item at home.** The students in Lower and Upper Elementary Class will dress as historical figures. These students have received additional information from their teachers about this.

Following our parade, the students in the Lower Elementary Class, will be transported to the Florida Lutheran Retirement Center to parade in their costumes for the residents there. **(Drivers are needed.)** This is always a memorable experience for everyone. A sign up sheet is posted on the office door. These students will attend the carnival upon their return.

Upper elementary students will give a presentation about the historical figure they selected for their costume. These reports are given in their class room following the parade. Other festive activities are being planned by these students.

Parents are needed to help decorate on Thursday, October 27 and to help us supervise games on Friday morning. Sign- up sheets are posted on the office door if you would like to volunteer.

All classes are dismissed at 11:30 am on October 28th. There will be no aftercare that day.

Orlando Philharmonic Young People's Concert – November 7

Students in Kindergarten through 7th grade will be attending the Orlando Philharmonic Young People's Concert **on Monday, November 7**. The concert begins at 12:00 pm at the Bob Carr Center for Performing Arts. Tickets are \$6.00 for students. Permission forms will be distributed soon. A parent has donated the use of two buses for transporting our students and teachers to this event.

Journey Into Discovery - Saturday, November 5

Our ***Journey Into Discovery*** parent education program will be Saturday, November 5. We will begin promptly at 9 AM please note new time. The Journey is recommended for families new to our school to learn about the foundations of Montessori as well as what to expect as your child progresses through each level.

Attire Reminders

If your young lady wears a dress to school, it is suggested she wear shorts or tights under her dresses. Our students are very active and often sit on the floor during the day. Also, sandals and flip flops are dangerous both in the school and out of doors at play time. Please remember to wear sensible footwear.

Soccer Team

A group of Children's House students have organized a team for the YMCA 2011 Soccer season. One of our parents, Rick Breitenstein, agreed to organize and coach the group. The team won their first game 9-0! We have listed their schedule for the season and encourage everyone to come out and cheer them on. All October games are on Saturdays and are played at the DeLand YMCA (field #3): October 8th at 12:00; October 15th at 11:00 AM; October 22 at 10:00 AM and October 29 at 11:00 AM.

Chess Club Tournament

Our Chess Club members have the opportunity to participate in an upcoming tournament, Saturday, October 29. "Halloween Scholastic" will be run by Steve Lampkin and take place at the Learning Rx Center in Ormond Beach. Entry fee is \$12. Please contact Maura Dinkla for more information. Flyers are on the hall table.

Godly Play

The after school class offered by Pastor Art Wuertz is open to children of all ages. The class is held on Thursdays from 3 – 3:30 PM.

Friends of Montessori



The Golden Apple Gala!!

A Silent Auction to benefit Children's House Montessori School
Saturday, November 12, 2011
7pm
The Museum of Florida Art

Festivities include an evening of hors d'oeuvres, desserts, cocktails and live music. Tickets will go on sale soon. In addition to one-of-a-kind items made by your children, we will also auction off items donated by the CHMS community and beyond! Please consider any items or services your family or business contacts may be willing to donate. Advertising space in the auction program is available. Promote your business or services to the CHMS community. Donation and Advertising forms are available on the table outside the front office, and are being sent home with your student.

If you would like to assist with the auction, or if you have any questions, please contact Megan Cloudman at meganer82@yahoo.com or 407-304-9926.

The success of the auction depends on your participation!! All proceeds will directly benefit CHMS!!

Buy a Brick!!

If you'd like to make a lasting impression with a donation to the school, please consider making a contribution to our brick program. Bricks can be purchased with a minimum donation of \$100 and will be engraved with a personal message of the donor's choice. All bricks will be placed into the sidewalk that will lead to the new building. Order forms are available on the table in the hallway next to the school office.

FOM Board Meeting

The next Friends of Montessori board meeting is **Thursday, October 20th at 6:30 pm at CHMS**. All families are members and are welcome to attend. It is a great way to find out exactly how the board supports the school, give your input, and become aware of opportunities to help.