

Children's House Montessori School
Newsletter
December 1, 2011



Thanksgiving Feast

Scholastic Book Fair
November 30-December 2

Don't forget to stop by the Scholastic Book Fair in the Fellowship Hall today after school or **Friday, December 2** before or after school. The book fair will close at 4:00 pm on Friday. Remember, books make great holiday gifts!

Lower Elementary Parent Education
Elementary Math

Mimi Clark and Princess Koletsky will host a Parent Education on **Thursday, December 1 at 7:00 pm**. They will be discussing elementary math materials, including Geometry. Child care will be available. This program is recommended for both Lower Elementary and Primary parents.

CHMS Steel Drummers
DeLand Christmas Parade

CHMS' *Panheads* will participate in the 63rd Annual DeLand Jaycees Christmas Parade this **Saturday, December 3**. They are #72 in the lineup. Come out and show your support for our students and enjoy the parade.

Volunteers Needed – Sunday, December 4
CHMS Playground

Due to the installation of the new building we need to reposition one piece of playground equipment and reconstruct a section of it. We have the plans and the materials but we need some workers to help us. If you could spare a few hours this Sunday morning at 10 AM please contact the school office (or just show up!) The children will very much appreciate your efforts. Thanks in advance for your time.

Upper Elementary Field Trip
Reptile Discovery Center – December 8

The upper elementary students will be going on a hike prior to visiting the Reptile Discovery Center on **Thursday, December 8**. The fee for this trip is \$14. Permission slips have been sent home.

Time to Bake Holiday Cookies

We are requesting parent volunteers to assist the children in baking cookies for our holiday program. Tell us when you are available and we will make the schedule work! We have the recipes and the ingredients; we need adults to supervise small groups of cookie bakers. Cookie baking will begin **Monday, December 5th and continue through Thursday, December 15th.**

Or if you prefer to bake at home, we will gladly accept your cookies. Feel free to stop by the office for recipes or use your favorite one.

Children's House Holiday Program Friday, December 16 at 10 AM

Our annual Children's House Montessori School Holiday Program will be **Friday, December 16** at 10AM in Elizabeth Hall at Stetson University. Arrival time that morning is 9:30AM at Stetson. A reception will follow the program and all children will be dismissed at 11:30 to begin the Holiday break. Classes will resume on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2012.**

There is no Toddler class on Friday, December 16. Toddler families are welcome to attend the program.

Each child (with the exception of Toddler) should have brought home a note explaining what they should wear to the program. Please let Ms. Deborah know if you have questions.

Primary Clothes

We try to keep a supply of clothes at school for our younger students. Our stock is low. If you have any of the borrowed items at home, please return them at your earliest opportunity. Also, we would accept any clothes your child has outgrown if you would like to donate them.

Gift Idea for Toddler & Primary Students

Many of the pieces of child sized equipment that we use in our Montessori toddler and primary classrooms come from *Montessori Services*. Each year they offer parents the opportunity to purchase items for children to use at home from their **For Small Hands** catalog. Catalogs with the school information were sent home with each toddler and primary student next week. Our school receives credit from your purchases. This promotion runs through December 31, 2011.

Soccer News – CHMS Team Undefeated

The season has ended for the Children's House students playing YMCA Soccer. The team had a great first season going undefeated and finishing best in their category. Special thanks to Rick Breitenstein and Tony & Jennifer Cyr for coaching this start-up team.

Local coaches (including Rick Breitenstein) will hold a Holiday Soccer mini-camp from December 27 – 29, 10 am – 1 pm at the Sperling Sports Complex. Registration and information is available at DeLand Parks and Recreation, 230 N. Stone Street.

Chess Club Tournament

Our Chess Club members have another opportunity to participate in an upcoming tournament, **Saturday, December 3.** "December Scholastic" will be run by Steve Lampkin and take place at the Learning Rx Center in Ormond Beach. Please note the new start time is 12:00 PM to accommodate families with previously scheduled Saturday morning events. Please contact Maura Dinkla for more information. Flyers are on the hall table.

Sands Theater Company & Sands Youth Theater Christmas Show

The Sands Theatre presents ***“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever”*** running **December 9-18**. This enjoyable holiday story is a tale of a couple struggling to put on a church Christmas pageant with some very mischievous children in the cast. Maia Schultheis will play the role of Beverly in this production. The theater’s phone number is 736-1500 for more information or to purchase tickets.

Friends of Montessori

The Friends of Montessori would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You to the CHMS community. This year we have, together, completed a successful Capital Campaign, seen our new Upper Elementary/Middle School Building completed, cleaned up after the construction with a great deal of volunteer effort, and had a successful Silent Auction fundraising event!! Well done! Congratulations! Thank you!

FOM Board Meeting

The next Friends of Montessori board meeting is **Thursday, January 19th at 6:30 pm at CHMS**. All families are members and are welcome to attend.