

**Children's House Montessori School
Newsletter
December 8, 2011**



"The Grinch That Stole Christmas" - A Children's House Production!

**Holiday Cookie Baking
Sign up Now**

We are requesting parent volunteers to assist the children in baking cookies for our holiday program. We have the recipes and the ingredients; we need adults to supervise small groups of cookie bakers. We will be baking through **Thursday, December 15th**. Sign up in the office if you would like to help.

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. Cookies can be dropped off anytime in the office.

Rehearsal Schedule at Stetson

Friday, December 9

Upper Elementary & Middle School students drop off at Stetson – Elizabeth Hall. They will be at Stetson through lunch before walking back to school in the afternoon. **(No Pizza orders for UE and MS Dec. 9).**

Wednesday, December 14

Lower Elementary students drop off at Stetson – Elizabeth Hall. They will walk back to school mid-morning.

Thursday, December 15 (8:00 am – 11:00 am)

All students (no Toddlers) drop off at Stetson – Elizabeth Hall. (Primary at 8:30; all others at 8:00). Primary children will be finished first and will be driven back to school. A sign up sheet will be posted on the office door for Primary parents who are able to stay in the area to transport the Primary students back to school. Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary and Middle School students will walk back to school prior to lunch.

Instrument Transportation from CHMS to Stetson

We still need volunteers to help transport instruments and scenery for rehearsal and the show. We need assistance today and Friday (December 9) both at 3:00 pm as well as next Thursday, December 15 at 3:00 pm and following the program on Friday, December 16.

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 will not be class for Toddlers 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.

Videographer

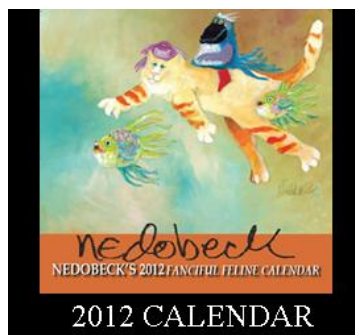
This year's Holiday program, "**The Grinch That Stole Christmas**," has required many hours of work for both the set and costumes. We would love to have the program videotaped. If you would be willing to tape the program, please let us know.

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.

Additional Gift Ideas

We are selling an assortment cloth gift bags with small instrument bags prepared for our young students by Deborah DeGaetano. They are displayed on a table in the front hallway. Price list is posted in the display area.



Don't miss local artist Don Nedobeck's 2012 *Fanciful Feline Calendar*. Calendars are for sale on the table outside the office. Each calendar is \$15 with proceeds being donated to Children's House by Mr. Nedobeck.

Santa's Workshop

Middle School Fundraiser

The Middle School thanks everyone for all the fabulous donations to our Santa's Workshop. We will continue to accept donations through Monday. Next week, December 12-14, the fun part begins. All of the classes will have an opportunity to pick out the perfect gifts for their loved ones. We have some amazing gifts at bargain prices! All items are priced between \$.50 and \$3.00. After the students have purchased their gifts, the Middle School elves will get to work wrapping and labeling the presents. The wrapped gifts will be sent home with the students on Thursday, December 15. We hope this will be a meaningful introduction for your child into the joy of giving.

Holiday Chicken Care

Our chickens need attention during the holiday break. We have posted a calendar on the office door and are looking for volunteers to sign up. They need to be cared for every 3-4 days (twice/week), so we'll need several volunteers to come to the school to feed and water them.

Playground Update

A great big thank you goes to the crew that repositioned and secured the playground equipment last weekend. The children are thrilled to be able to play on the equipment again. Thanks for giving us your time.

Sands Theater Company & Sands Youth Theater Christmas Show

The Sands Theater 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.