

Children's House Montessori School
Newsletter
May 17, 2012



Primary Water Day

Art Show Reception – Friday, May 18

We would like to invite everyone to come and enjoy an exhibit of art projects completed by the children who attend our after school art classes (September – December and January – May). The exhibit will take place on **Friday, May 18** from 5:00 – 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We hope to see you there.

Primary Music Demonstration
Mornings of May 21-23

Music demonstrations for all primary students will take place on May 21, 22 & 23 at 8:45 or 9:45 AM. Notices were sent home with each child's scheduled date and time and a full schedule of classes is posted on the office door. Primary Parents are invited to attend their child's music class demonstration. Our young ladies are asked to wear shorts or leggings under their dresses for the performance.

Lower Elementary to Alexander Springs – May 25

Our lower elementary students will enjoy a water day at Alexander Springs on **Friday, May 25**. Permission slips and the \$5.00/person fee should be returned to the office by Thursday, May 24. Please indicate on the permission slip if you are available to drive.

Calendar Reminder

Just a reminder, there is no school on Monday, May 28 in observance of Memorial Day. Our final day of school will be Wednesday, May 30 with early dismissal at 11:30 am. There will be no aftercare that day.

Primary Snacks Needed

As we have rotated through our primary families for snack week, we are hopeful several of our primary families will contribute a few items from the snack list through the end of the year. We are asking all fruits and vegetables are prepared for serving before bringing them in. Thank you.

Items from our Lending Library

If you have borrowed a book or DVD from Children's House, we would ask that you return it by the end of the school year. We want to be certain we have enough copies to lend to our parents again next year. Also, take a look around your house and car. Do you see any other item that might belong to school...library book, puzzle piece, etc. If so, please drop them in the child's classroom or the office. Thank you.

Panheads to Perform

Ms. Deborah's Steel Drummers, the ***Panheads***, will perform during Fourth Friday DeLand Art Walk on **Friday, May 25**. They will be playing at Artisan's Alley from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Garden Request from Ms. Susi

Please save the lids from frozen concentrated juice cans. They will be used in the garden. Drop off your lids in the office or with Ms. Susi.

Report from Upper Elementary Field Trip to Whitney Lab

On May 9 the Upper Elementary class went to Whitney Lab in Palm Coast area near Marineland. Whitney Lab specializes in using marine animals to help students understand how biological systems work. This is the first time our school has visited the lab, and we were very impressed with the level of information and the attention to the students. Our students were involved in four different activities over the two and a half hours that we were there. They each performed an experiment to determine what mud snails prefer to eat, completed a density experiment with salt water and fresh water to help determine how different animals can live in brackish water, investigated animals from the nearby estuary, and finally used microscopes to learn about the microscopic life that lives in the estuaries.

Returning to school, we stopped at Washington Oaks State Park and had a short exploration of the coquina rocks on the beach that are a wonderful example of sedimentary rocks formed 100,000 years ago. This is a trip they will definitely make again.

Reminder

We enjoy receiving photos from our parents taken of students at social events, celebrations, field trips, etc. Please remember these photos should not be posted on Facebook as some of our parents have objected to having their children's photos on the internet. Facebook is a public domain and is a concern for some of our families. Thank you for respecting their wishes.

FACTS Tuition Management

Parents planning to pay tuition in payments need to register with FACTS Tuition Management Company to arrange for your payments. The most efficient way to accomplish this is to enroll online. You may go to our website www.delandmontessori.com and go to **Admissions** and then **Tuition and Fees** and click on the symbol for **FACTS**. You will be given two options for payment either a monthly invoice or automatic deduction. After you have registered we will enter in the tuition amount listed on your contract. You will then receive confirmation in the mail.

If you are currently enrolled with FACTS and all of your payment information is the same you do not need to re-enroll. We can do that for you and will send you a letter of confirmation.

The deadline for enrollment is May 30, 2012. Payments will begin in August.

If you have any questions, please call Dora Mallett at 736-3632.

Toddler Class Assistant Needed (Spanish Speaking)

As you know next year we are expanding our toddler program and we need to add an additional staff member. The prescribed way for children of this age to learn a second language is by having someone speak to them only in their native tongue. We have advertised this position and are turning to our Children's House community for referrals. If you know of someone who might be interested please have them contact Mrs. Mallett in the school office.

Summer Enrichment Programs at Children's House

Registration forms are available for our summer programs. The forms have information about the program and the fees. Below is the list of the dates for each camp. If you are planning to register for any of our summer programs, it would assist us in planning **if you would turn your forms in before the end of the school year**. Payment can be made at time of registration or on Monday of your camp week.

Chess Camp: June 4-8 (Mornings)
Summer of Fun Camp: June 4-8 (Afternoons)
Primary Camp: June 11-15; June 18-22; and June 25-29
International Folk Week: June 11-15
Art Camp: June 18-22
Math Camp: June 25-29 and July 2-6
Science Camp: June 25-29 and July 2-6 (Afternoons)

Please note, we now have a Science Camp offering in the afternoons during the two weeks of Math Camp. This camp will be led by Dean Tate (parent of two boys at CHMS and a science teacher at DeLand High School). Dean plans to offer lessons and hands on experiments for students in grades 1 through 6. Children may enroll in this program to round out a full day if they are in Math Camp or can arrive at 12:00 for the afternoon. Flyers and registration sheets will be available on the hall table. You may email Dean at adtatejr@gmail.com.

Summer Camp Information (not held at CHMS)

Casa Montessori will once again offer a summer program. Information regarding their summer program is available on the hall table. Their camp runs from June 4 - July 26 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Museum of Florida Art has a variety of offerings for ages 4 – 16 beginning June 18. A flyer with the programs, dates and fees is on our hall table.

Flyers are available for **Write Away!** This is a writing camp for students who have just completed grades 4 thru 7. The nine-day class will be held July 2, 3, 5 & 6 and the following week July 9-13 from 9 am – 3 pm. Tuition is \$300. Class size is limited. Camp will be held at First Presbyterian School.

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is partnering with Emmaus Lutheran Church to offer Vacation Bible School the week of July 30 – August 3. The program is for kindergarten through 5th grade. VBS will be held at Good Samaritan Lutheran Retirement Center and will run from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm. This year's theme is **SonRise National Parks**. Information is available on the hall table.

Summer Tutoring Available

Travis Williamson, educational therapist and Montessori teacher, is offering one-on-one and small group lessons for students during the summer months to strengthen skills, enrich learning and prevent summer attrition. Work can be done on a range of levels in reading, writing, spelling or math, focused on the needs of the individual child. Travis has a BS in Early Childhood Education, a MEd in Montessori Curriculum and Instruction, an AMI Elementary 6-9 Diploma, an AMS 6-12 Diploma and holds an educational therapy license from the National Institute of Learning Development. She has more than 30 years classroom experience. To arrange weekly or biweekly schedules between June 25 and July 27, call (386) 736-6368 or email atwilliamson@cfl.rr.com.

Friends of Montessori

Thank you to all of the families that contributed to the **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** Wednesday! The food was tasty and plentiful... Truly a wonderful tribute to our phenomenal staff!! Your cleaned dishes are outside the front office waiting to be picked up.

Thank you also to all of the CHMS families that have worked so hard this past year to help Friends of Montessori support the school. We appreciate your efforts a great deal, and look forward to another great year after the summer break!