

September 2nd, 2016

Volume 5 Issue 1

DOLPHIN TALES

It's a girl! Julia Harris is now a big sister!

Jonathan & Genna Harris had a little girl on August 22nd named **Lilian Gail Harris!** Congratulations!!



Wisdom



Knowledge



Peace

WELCOME BACK! WE'VE MISSED YOU!



Important Dates:

September 5
Labor Day-No School

October 7
Copper Creek Farm--
Toddler and Primary

Aug. & Sept. Birthdays:

9/1 Seanna K.
9/7 Kaleb P.
9/8 Rachael C.
9/8 Brynlee N.
9/13 Parker J.
9/14 Ely H.
9/15 Ishan S.
9/17 Bo P.
9/19 Riley F.
9/22 Annika P.
9/25 Milan L.
9/25 Darden M.
9/25 Wyatt S.
9/27 Braden L.
9/27 Abigail R.

Toddler News from Ms. Ginny & Ms. Pam



The first couple of weeks have gone pretty well! The children are doing much better with the morning separations already! You parents are doing great dropping them off and not lingering! It's truly a sweet little class.

Thanks to the ones who were able to attend Daddy's Day! I know it was a very HOT evening, but I do believe it was a success.....especially for the children! They love those inflatables.

We've talked a lot about colors and shapes.....read lots of books.....and sung our color song everyday. We will continue into September with colors and shapes to get them more familiar with them. Be sure when dressing them to talk about their "red" shirt or their "green" socks, etc. The more they are talked to, the faster they will learn!! Their little minds are like sponges. Put it out there, and they will absorb it!!

In September we will learn all about different zoo animals. We will try to start doing a few crafts this month and read lots of stories on the different animals and sing cute songs about them too.

Be sure to continue to send a water bottle daily and make sure if we send their extra clothing home, to return clean ones the next day. Also, make sure to take their nap rolls home on Friday to wash and bring back on Monday mornings.



Toddler News from Ms. Shannon & Ms. Dana

September is here! This month we will talk about the animals of the zoo. We will discuss where they are from and what they eat. We will continue our colors and shapes as well since we only had a couple of weeks to work on them. We will also have some patterns since that will correlate well with our zoo animal studies. If you have anything you would like to share with the class, please feel free to send it in.

It was so wonderful to see so many of you at the Back to School picnic/Daddy's Day. Even though it was really warm, I think the kids had a blast! I hope you had a chance to visit with other parents in our class. It makes life so much more enjoyable when you have connections at school. I would love to hear from things that you liked about the picnic or things that you think could be improved.

I've had some questions about lunches. Every day we remove their food from their containers and place them onto a plate. We warm up what needs to be warmed. Something that would make it easier for us — please do not put cold things in with things that need to be warmed. They are in charge of throwing their own lunches away. I know it's hard for some to not see the leftover food, but it is part of Montessori for them to care for their environment.

Thanks to all who have sent in their fees for the year. I still need a few more. Please send in a check written to me or cash. Thanks so much for helping our class be the best it can be!

If you have not signed up for Remind 101 please do so. I will send quick reminders about upcoming things in the classroom. Just text 88b9k to the number 81010. It's that simple Thanks!!



News from Ms. Ana Maria & Ms. Carolina

We've enjoyed a great start to the school year!

We have really loved getting to know all of the new students that have joined our class.

We enjoyed learning about the Olympics. We learned about the different events that are held, the Olympic torch, and the origin of the Olympics. Braylen's family brought in an Olympic torch from the 1996 Olympics. The children really enjoyed seeing it. Seem were even asking if we could light it on fire again. (Things you do expect to hear during a line time lesson.) Thank you to Braylen's family!

Next we will be learning all about space and the ocean. These two are favorites of the children. We will learn all about the planets and the stars and then we will learn as much as we can about the ocean. If your child has anything they would like to share about these subjects, they are more than welcome to bring them in.

The children have gotten right back into the routines of the day, and the new children are doing great. Some great questions to ask your child at the end of the day are: What work did you do today? Did you do anything in Math or Language? What was your favorite work that you did? Did you help out any friends today? Sometimes when the children are asked if they did anything at school, they usually say no. I have found that parents got more of a response if they are more specific with their questions.

Thank you for making this a great start to the school year!

Ana Maria



Primary News from Ms. Angie & Ms. Nikki

August has been a great month. We are beginning to settle into a routine, and the children are enjoying school. We have had fun learning about the Olympics and practicing grace and courtesy. I hope your children have been practicing their grace and courtesy at home also.

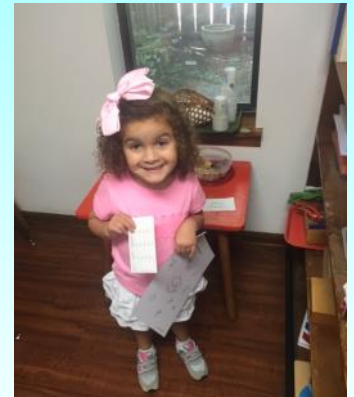
The back to school picnic was a great success. It was nice to see all the parents here. I even saw parents on the inflatables having a good time. Thanks goes out to the Boosters for hosting this awesome event for us. It is always nice to eat, play, and enjoy friends.

We will begin our studies of the universe in September. We always enjoy learning about the planets and all the other cool and interesting things floating around in space. If you have any books or craft ideas pertaining to our studies, we would definitely enjoy you sharing them. If you would like to volunteer to read a book or make a craft with the children, please let us know.

We always enjoy volunteers and visitors in our classroom. Please give us six weeks to gain normalization in our class and then we will definitely welcome you in. If you would like to observe through our window at any time, please feel free to do so.

We are excited about the school year and the class. We are sure that it is going to be the best year ever!!!

Angie and Nikki



Musings from Ms. Melanie

Thank you for a great first two weeks of school! I love seeing many lessons being given and absorbed. The children are truly captivated by their work! The Great Lesson in Lower El was beautifully given by the Adolescent class, and the fellowship at the Back to School Picnic was great! Thank you to our Booster's Club and to Ms. Shemi and Jim for the inflatables, sno-cones, and yummy food.

A few notes:

Pick up for After School Care Toddler and Primary: For everyone's safety and for us to keep track of everyone, we want to have one exit on and off the toddler and primary playground. Instead of going through Ms. Angie and Ms. Ana Maria's rooms to access the playground, please go down the long hallway past Ms. Shannon's room and the nap room toward the breezeway. Another reason to go this way is that Ms. Angie and Ms. Ana Maria clean their rooms at the end of the day, and to keep their rooms sparkly after all their work, we need to reduce the traffic going in and out of their rooms.

Tuition: Tuition is now due, and a \$50 overdue fee will be added on September 5. Tuition is due on the 1st of each month and overdue on the 5th of each month.

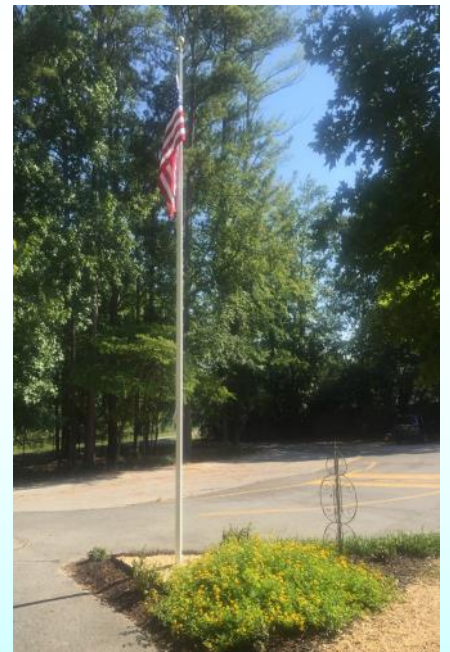
Extracurricular Activities:

Registration for Lil Gunners, Teach Me Tennis (only 8 spots left/ Lower El through Upper El 5th years), Chess, Piano, Violin, Musical Theatre Camp with the renowned Ms. Julie Bearden Carver (new club!) and Creative Movement are now open.

Registration forms in the front lobby or ask Ms. Melanie or Ms. Reine.

New Flagpole:

A special thank you to **Nicholas Carlton** for choosing MSR as the recipient of his Eagle Scout project! At the front of the main building, he installed a lovely flag pole and landscaped the surrounding area. Last Friday, the elementary students received a lesson from Nicholas about proper handling of the flag. Nicholas incorporated an arrow in the landscaping as a tribute to his order in the Boy Scouts. Ask your children if they remember what he explained about the Order of the Arrow! Impressive!



Elementary News: Ms. Stefanie and Ms. Maggie



Our first full week of school went great! All of the students have been working diligently on all of their work and are doing very well! They each have a chore in the classroom that changes every week and many enjoy getting to help out around the room by feeding our fish, cleaning off the tables and being line leader. On Friday the 26th, Ms. Dagmar's son visited our school and demonstrated the proper way to fold, raise and lower the American flag. All of the students enjoyed watching and participated in the Pledge of Allegiance before heading back inside. Our morning work class consisted of various lessons including handwriting, shapes, operations and compound words. Daily planners for the students provide curriculum that everyone strives to accomplish every morning work day. Our afternoon schedule has been full of activities.



The students have gone to Spanish, visited the library to check out books, and enjoyed singing along in music class. During our Botany lesson, the students found living and non-living examples in National Geographic copies. The students enjoyed hearing the first stories of the Junior Great Books and are excited to hear more. We were also working on our Daddy's Day gifts this past week. The students wrote and drew multiple pictures in a booklet based off of things that reminded them of their father. Inside the booklet, there was a personalized bookmark with a cutout picture of the student. All of us enjoyed seeing the smiling faces on the bookmarks! This week we have started the creation stories and enjoyed having the adolescent class come into our room and perform the first great lesson. We all watched in awe as they demonstrated Newton's laws and we couldn't sit still from excitement once the dry ice came out. Thank you to the parents for the student's promptness, as they all enjoy gathering at circle time and reading a book from our shelf! We are looking forward to another great week, and we hope that everyone will enjoy their three day weekend coming up!



Elementary News: Ms. Dolores & Ms. Annie



Welcome!!! to the new school year. It was great to see and talk with you all at the Daddy's Day/Back-to-School picnic. The children really seemed to enjoy the inflatables and sno-cones. We hope that you all indulged in the opportunity to (re)connect with your Montessori community. It's been a promising start to another great year.

Devi's granddad, Daniel Pugh, will be joining our class on Mondays to work with everyone on spelling. We also have a need for parents to volunteer to work with math flash cards and listen to readers. Ms. Annie plans to cook with the children every month, so let us know if you are interested and available to join us for this activity. We are also still looking for a room mom. If necessary, this job can be shared between 2-3 people.

Our class will celebrate late summer birthdays on Friday, September 9. The adults-in-charge of Yash, Ezekiel, and Newman need to coordinate and make decisions regarding a menu. Most of the time this is done with a full lunch, but sometimes with dessert-only; it's totally up to you. Lunchtime on Friday begins at 11:30.

The adolescents did a remarkable job presenting the 1st Great Lesson - The Birth of the Universe. We will be conducting gravity/inertia/centrifugal force experiments in the classroom throughout the next week. On Tuesday, September 6, they will be presenting the 2nd Great Lesson - The Coming of Life. As stated in last week's notes, this would be an excellent time to have a conversation about your family's beliefs about creation.



In order to make morning drop-off run more smoothly, please continue to drop-off at the main door between 7:30 and 7:45. After 7:45 the children travel to their classroom and the attending teacher will unlock the elementary side door (the same door we dismiss from in the afternoon). If dropping-off after 7:45, please pull up to this side door and watch your child enter the building. Changing to the side entrance will help with crowd control in the main lobby as the primary children begin to arrive.

We will have a presidential election in our lower elementary classrooms. Candidates will be any 3rd year students wishing to run. They will be permitted to post no-more-than three 8 1/2 x 11 sized posters in their own classrooms. Sometime in mid-September we will have our "primary" elections to narrow the field down to one candidate per class. These 2 children will then choose a running mate (any child) from the opposite class. Campaigns will begin in full force and last until mid-October. We will also elect a representative from each class (again no age-level restrictions). Once elected, these 4 students will have a monthly lunch-time meeting with the lower el teachers to present ideas for classroom enhancement: special dress-up days, service project ideas, etc. Further details will follow as more definite decisions are made.

Other reminders:

Some children still need an extra set of clothing. We have gallon-sized plastic bags to store them in.

No school on Monday, September 6 - Labor Day Holiday

Details about our annual Historical Timeline will be coming home next week. Begin talking about (deceased) historical characters with your child. They will need to read a children's book to do the bulk of their research. No internet research, please. We have plenty of biographies in our school library.

Ms. Dolores

678.223.3347



News from Ms. Rebecca and Mr. Eric



The Upper Elementary has enjoyed a very smooth transition into the new school year! We have been a busy bunch of learners: establishing routines, working on calendars and schedules, getting familiarized with Classical Roots and Math Facts tests, and training in time management to complete morning work cycle requirements. We have also had introductory lessons in Junior Great Books and Writer's Workshop. These first weeks require patience and fortitude and we are happy to see our new additions to the classroom beginning to normalize to the workload. Our strong 5th and 6th year students are greatly assisting in this transition and are themselves showing leadership and advancements in many areas of the classroom.

In August we have enjoyed creating the classroom web which demonstrates to the students the interdisciplinary and connected nature of all of our subjects. We have also begun the Timeline of Life and have entered into discussions of the first two "Great Lessons." Our new 4th Years began our "Welcome Back" classroom door art, and the rest of the class added in positive messages to inspire all who visit our class. Thanks to Tristan (and Ms. Kim), we have a new addition to our freshwater fish tank—two sucker fish! We have already had our first Birthday lunch and Daddy's Day/Back to school picnic, which included a wonderful art project where the students hand glazed coffee mugs as gifts.

In September we look forward to our first outing which is our overnight Bonding trip to Zoo Atlanta! We will be able to explore the zoo at night with our guides, taking note of the activities of nocturnal creatures, as well as taking a more extensive zoo tour during the day. We will have our second outing (a local trip) on Tuesday, Sept. 13th (drivers will be needed).

Also in September we will begin our Fire Safety program for the 5th years on Sept 6th, as well as the first 4H meeting with 5th and 6th years next week. Our first cooking day will be Sept 9th, and our next Birthday lunch will be Sept 30th. We are excited about all of these activities and upcoming events!

Thank you,
Upper Elementary



Adolescent News

Please see the attached Talisman Newsletter for Adolescent news.

News from Booster's Club

Thank you to everyone who attended the Back to School/ Daddy's Day picnic!

We hope everyone had fun meeting new and returning families, receiving their special present, jumping on the inflatables, and enjoying their hot dogs and snow cones!! The rain gods looked out for us, and we did not have a drop of rain!

We are busy planning the fall semester events. Details soon to follow.

Please do not forget to turn in your \$20 per family for the Booster's Club to Melanie.

Lastly, please contact either one of us if you have fun event ideas for the kids during the day or parents at night. We are always open to suggestions.

Take care,

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Monisha Patel (monisha0423@gmail.com, [267-981-3306](tel:267-981-3306))

Thank You!