

January Talisman

Happy New Year



First Semester is over and a new one is beginning!

It seems like yesterday that I was on a bonding trip with our class. The past five months seem to have passed too quickly. We have made eighty days of academic advancement, social and emotional growth and countless new memories. Looking back, I realize there are challenges working with adolescents but the rewards far outweigh those. The students are guided by twelve amazing adults that grow them each day with respect, care, and expectation. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to guide them. Hope all of you had a peaceful, restful holiday season. *Ms. Shemi*

LUNCH BOX

Want to enroll for the 2nd semester? We would be honored to have you as a client.

BACK DOOR SCOOP

MSOR

The scoop will serve new winter selections each week.

FARM STAND

We are preparing for our Spring Mkt.

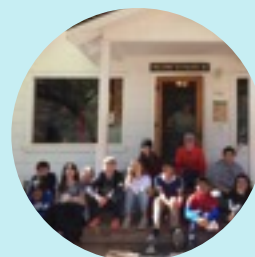
Please stay planted.

2nd GA Seminar



We hit the road, to see and study our state!!!

Throw Back



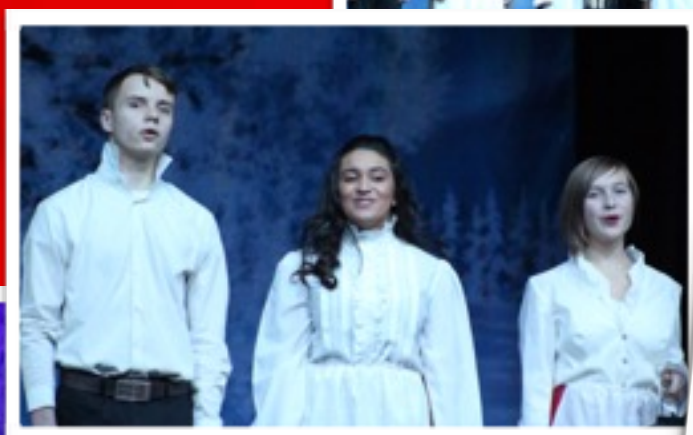
March 2015

Red Rocks, Sedona, AZ



Performing with our friends from The Rockmart Children's Academy

*Hear We Come a Caroling.....
We are not daily beggars*



The Christmas program was fantastic. Everyone enjoyed watching the classes sing and dance. Everyone practiced so much, especially the Creative Playworks (MSR Drama Club). We should thank Ms. Shemi, Ms. Rachel, Mr. Jim, Mrs. Merchant, Ms. Reine, Ms. Carol, and Ms. Kim for the stage setup. We also would like to thank Ms. Julie for guiding us through preparations for our show. *Isaiah Girgis*

The Christmas program was a success and everyone had fun during the performance. It was wonderful to see everyone's hard work from practicing and setting up the auditorium; it paid off in the end. The musical theater club also performed songs and scenes from *The Sound of Music* during the program. All of the Montessori community worked hard to put on a great show and it lead us to success in the end. *Kaylie Martin*

New Year's Resolution

Cydney

It is a tradition in my family to make a New Year's resolution. This year it was hard to decide what it should be. My resolution would be to stay true to myself, no matter what others think. This can be difficult at times, but it can be achieved. My other resolution is to study harder and more consistently. With these resolutions in mind, the New Year should be amazing!

Illiyaan

Everyone has New Year's resolutions. However, not everyone follows through on theirs because it is hard to stick to them. My New Year's resolution is to be a better person. By that, I mean to be nicer and kinder. Academically, I would like to improve my grades and expand my knowledge in all subjects. My goals for the end of the year are to have A's in every class.

Esha

As the year 2016 ended and 2017 begins, I have personally reflected over the year. My new year's resolution is to eat healthy, run at least one mile and workout everyday no matter what. I would also like to think before I speak, this is something I do not do as well as I wish I would. I would like to be more humble and thankful for all that has been given to me. My vision for 2017 for myself is to make a difference in this world even if it is small. As for my academic goals for the year, I would like to study more, focus on my weaknesses, and be an overachiever academically in every possible way.

Isaiah

My New Year's resolution is to become a YouTuber, to live stream, and to post at least once a month during the school year and once a week during the summer. My academic resolution is to work more on my elective, Georgia History, and to not sing during class.

Shehan

A New Year's Resolution is something that we want to change about ourselves. To put into action a goal and set to achieve it. My New Year resolution is to be on time, go skating at least once a week, travel more often, try flight lessons, and to be able to type 50 words per minute. This year will be great one for me! Happy New Year!

Gaven

(Personal) Every year my goal is to come up with a resolution that will benefit me, and make me a better person. This year my resolution is to go to the gym every morning before school to make myself a better athlete.

(Academic) This year my resolution for school is to keep up my grades, and also to improve them as the year goes on. My goal is to finish my last year at Montessori with a 4.0 GPA as well as to improve my work ethic and to become a leader to my peers, so I can help them achieve their goals.

Kaylie

My personal New Year's resolution is to read more books because I feel as if I did not read that much last year. My academic resolution is to pass every test I take with at least a ninety. Through the resolutions I have made, I hope to better myself as a person and as a student. I am excited to see how this year turns out and what new memories I make!

Nicholas

This year is going to be an active and productive year for me! Through the New Year's resolutions that I make this year, I hope to better myself in every way possible. One of the main resolutions that I have made is to be more active by going to the gym more often. I also plan to start running on a regular basis as well as improve my diet. A smaller but just as important resolution that I have made is to try my best to treat everyone the way that I would want to be treated. I would also like to help people in every way possible. Academically speaking, I plan to raise all my grades as well as to expand my knowledge in the many subjects that I study. My goals for the end of the year are to have an A in every class, to be able to run faster, to eat much healthier, and to overall be a better human being. New Year's Resolution (Mary Ella)

This year for my resolutions, my main focus was to make them possible to accomplish; unlike other years, where it was to run five miles every day. One is to go gluten free for the month of January and possibly more. Another personal resolution is to not eat after 8pm. For my academic resolutions my goal is to get organized and to complete all of my homework.

Mary Ella

This year my main resolution is to set resolutions that I can accomplish; unlike past years. I am going to try to be gluten free for the month of January and possibly more. Another personal resolution is to not eat after 8pm. Academically resolutions my goal is to get organized and to complete all of my homework.

Elsa Quay

One of my New Year Resolutions is to read a devotion every day. One academic resolution of mine is to spend more time studying each subject every day. As the year passes by I will try to refocus on my new year's resolutions and stick by them. I cannot wait to see what memories and new friends I will make in 2017!

Kristen

My new year's resolution is drink more milk and eat vegetables because it helps you grow. It would be my late Christmas present if I were taller. If I grew, I would be as happy as a unicorn on a rainbow. My academic resolution is to make better grades and make my parents proud. I would like to better myself as a person through my new year's resolutions.

Holiday Reflections

For the holidays, my family decided to visit our relatives. We visited all of our grandparents, cousins, aunts, and uncles. We also exchanged many gifts. My favorite part of the holiday season is spending time with my family. Although I babysat my brother most of the time, it was a great holiday; from watching movies to baking sweets, this holiday season was the best! *Cydney Adams*

The holidays are a fun time of year. You get to trade and open gifts and have dinner with your family. This Christmas my family had a Christmas party. During this Christmas party we ate food, traded gifts, played Secret Santa, and spent quality family time. When we played Secret Santa, we received gifts such as a Starbucks gift card, a blanket, and a soccer ball. Then we had a family dinner and spent time with family. We then played Heads Up Charades, which was a fun game. We also played musical chairs. We enjoyed each other's company, which matters most. *Illiyaan Sundrani*

This past winter break, my sister from Canada flew over to Georgia. We stayed with our grandparents for a week then we stayed at my house. We had so much fun staying up late, watching Netflix all night while eating cake, popsicles, and chips, and shopping during the day. Other than all the fun we had, I also gained wisdom from her, as she was older than me and able to help me. We ended her visit with a fun Bollywood party, where we enjoyed dancing together.

Although my family is not Christian, we celebrate Christmas along with one of our religious celebrations. This past December was the 80th birthday of my present living leader, of our Muslim leader, Prince Shah Karim Al Husaani, Aga Kahn IV. He is the 49th Imam of the Nizari Ismailism, which is a branch within the Shia Muslims. This occasion marks the oldest present living leader of the Nizari Shia Muslims who continues his gracious service to the Nizari Shia Muslims all over the world. I am very grateful to have celebrated this grand occasion with traditional dancing and food.

We also celebrated Christmas with a big family gathering. We played the *The Secret Snowflake Game*. It was entertaining watching everyone trying to guess who gave them a gift; no one seems to guess the correct person on the first try. We ate delicious Indian food and ended the night with family games. My favorite game was *Heads Up Charades*. I enjoyed watching everyone act out different actions. *Ehsa Sundrani*

The holidays to me are a time of love and joy, peace to all, family, friends, and giving. It is when Christ was born to save us from sin. I do still fill up with joy when I tear into a gift. I also enjoy seeing the smile on other people's faces when they open a gift. Over the break, family and friends came to our house for the holidays. People came for Christmas and for others for the New Year. For Christmas, we have family that lives in Florida who come up to celebrate. For New Year, my dad and his friends from college have a rotation. Each year, they go to one specific house; this year they came to our house, and it was special for me. *Isaiah Girgis*

A holiday is a time away from school, a time to sleep in, or a time to go and travel somewhere. I really enjoy the holidays because I can travel and sleep in, although I still miss school. I love to get together with my family and spend time with them. Sometimes I am able to spend time with family from other countries. We are always excited to see our friends and family visiting from around the world. After all, Christmas is the time for family.

Over the break, I enjoyed the company of my family. On Christmas, we all got together and had a big party where we stayed up very late and could not wake up the next day. On New Year's Eve, I went to a party at The Westin hotel in Atlanta. The party lasted till 3:00 am, despite the fact that I had to checkout early that morning. I enjoyed the holiday season and made memories that will stay with me forever. *Shehan Sundrani*

Every year my family celebrates with our annual Christmas dinner; inviting all family members to join and participate in Secret Santa. We all gather around the dining room table at 6 in the evening and feast together; share our fond memories from the year. We enjoy catching up with each other. Every year we are all shocked to see the changes in one another. We all enjoy the holidays and can't wait to do it again. *Gaven Freeman*

During the break, I spent a lot of time with my family. My mom and grandmother were the ones who spent the most time with me. The rest of my break was spent with my dad and my step family. Both sides of my family celebrated Christmas with me, shared Christmas dinner with me, and gave me presents. Other than spending time with family, I stayed home and enjoyed the time off. Celebrating the holiday with my family truly made my Christmas extraordinary.

Christmas is a time to come together and spend time with those you don't get to see often. My family opens presents then eats a big dinner together. I do this with both my mom's side of the family, my dad and step family. This is what makes Christmas one of my favorite holidays to celebrate since I get to experience it with all of my family. This past holiday season taught me a lot about myself and I will remember it for years to come. *Kaylie Martin*

Christmas break was an important time for me this year. I was not only able to rest and spend time with family, but also able to grow as a person. Through several different experiences, I was able to learn life lessons that had been oblivious to me before. One such lesson was that any job worth doing is worth doing well. I learned this when my brother and I did landscaping on our front yard. Another lesson that I learned is that the holiday season isn't about the presents you get or the food you eat, it's about the company you share and the memories you make.

The holidays have a very important meaning to my family and I. We have a strong belief in spending time with one another as well as making lasting memories. What we typically do on Christmas Eve is drive out to my grandparent's garage for lunch. My parents, brother, and I will usually arrive earlier than everyone else to help set up tables as well as to sweep and mop. Once everyone arrives, the older gentlemen of my family will grill steaks while my grandmother and aunt will bake potatoes and fresh bread. After all of the food is cooked, we all sit down and say a prayer and then begin eating. Once dessert is served, everyone typically breaks out board games and goes outside to play. As the evening draws near, many members of my family head home. My parents, brother and I as well as my aunt, uncle, and cousins stay at my grandparents to trade and give gifts. After all the presents are opened, my family says our goodbyes and heads home to wait for Christmas morning. On Christmas morning, my family wakes up, heads downstairs, and begins to open presents. We then head back to my grandparents' house for lunch, thus completing our holiday celebrations. That's Christmas to me. *Nicholas Whelchel*

After our Christmas celebrations, my family and I went to the beach; this is one of my family's traditions. This year we went to Sandestin. During winter break, my family spent time with relatives that we don't see often. Overall, I had a fun relaxing and educational winter break and I cannot wait to expand my knowledge. *Elsa Quay Corbin*

Every Christmas, my family goes to Mississippi to my grandmother's house. On Christmas Eve, my family celebrated my birthday. On Christmas morning, we opened up our presents from Santa. We had Christmas dinner with my cousins and my aunt; the food was delicious. Christmas break was a lot of fun! It blew my mind by how fast 2016 flew by. My mom, cooked an amazing New Year's meal for my family. We did the big count down into the New Year. I heard people shoot fireworks all night. Holiday break was awesome; I just wish it could have been longer. *Kristen Daniel*

As Christians, my family celebrates Christmas, the birth of Jesus. Every Christmas Eve, I go to my "grandparent's" house for Christmas Eve lunch. That night, my family and I attend our church's candle light service, as a preparation for our saviors' birth and to light the last advent candle. After this service, my mother's side of the family comes over for Christmas Dinner, and to open presents. On Christmas morning we open our gifts from Santa. This year, since Christmas was on Sunday, we went to church and my family lit the last advent candle. After the service, we went to my grandma's house, on my dad's side, we have lunch with all of my cousins, and open presents. Christmas break was great, just not quite long enough! *Mary Ella Bussey*



Academic Roundup For January

History

AP Human Geography, we have begun to read, "*The Lemon Tree*." It is a book about the conflicts throughout the Middle East. We will also study Chapter 7 and 8, and will be working on a project about ethnicities.

Georgia History, similar to AP Human, we are studying about ethnicities of our nation and the role it plays in GA History. We will be covering chapters 12-15. These chapters will cover how slavery divided our nation, causes of the Civil War, and African Americans in politics.

Both classes will be taking tests and quizzes throughout the month. We are also planning to take a trip to the Coast to study the Gullah people in a couple of weeks.

Math

We are ready for another good semester in math. Pre-Algebra students are working on special right triangles and the Pythagorean Theorem. In Algebra I, students are working on exponential growth and decay. We will soon be studying Polynomials and factoring. In Algebra II, we have just finished complex square root operation and are moving onto logarithms. Both classes will be continuing Geometry in February.

Technology

We have accomplished our first semester of Technology class. The Adolescent class is excited to find out more about our upcoming projects. Our goal for the upcoming two months is yearbook. Creating and designing the yearbook helps us learn how to make and use a template. We will also continue to write Tuesday Notes every week. This task enables us to practice efficient typing skills. We can't wait to progress through the year.

Literature

We are going to continue reading Macbeth Acts 4 and 5. We are also going to study the characters and go inside their minds and find out what really motivates them. We will continue to watch the Scottish version of the play as

we progress through the book. The next book we will be reading is *The Old Man and The Sea*. We are excited to see how our literary knowledge grows as the semester progresses!

French

This month in French class we are going to review units one and two, and will begin unit three. We are excited to be able to not only review but to learn new material and to improve our vocabulary in French.

Writing and Grammar

We finished our mid-terms on a good note. Last semester, writing and grammar is a fun class in which we were given multiple assignments which included writing in different styles as well as working on the Conventions of our writing. We are also given the opportunity to listen to stories by successful authors and analyze famous paintings. I hope that this semester will also be filled with fun and learning similar to the last one.

Science

Science classes this semester are going to be a lot of fun and hard work.

Physical Science - will be working past balancing and naming and moving on to forces and gravity.

Chemistry 1 - will pick up right where they left off, with more studies of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Chemistry 2 - will also be resuming their studies with more work in the electromagnetic spectrum as well as new and more advanced concepts. We hope that by the end of our second semester, we will have the knowledge to all be young chemists.