

February 1st, 2019

Volume 7 Issue 6

DOLPHIN TALES



Baby Announcements:



Peyton Rylee Jenkins
Baby Sister of Parker

Important Dates:

February 21st
Toddler/Primary
International Day

February 22nd
Elementary
International Day

February Birthdays:

| | |
|------------|------|
| Tori R. | 1/2 |
| Wanling C. | 2/10 |
| Ansley C. | 2/18 |
| Ruby B. | 2/19 |
| Price P. | 2/22 |
| Charl G. | 2/23 |
| MaraLee S. | 2/25 |
| Isaiah G. | 2/27 |



Toddler News from Ms. Ginny & Ms. Pam

What a fun month January was. We loved learning all about the Arctic animals, the sounds they make and the things they like to eat. The children loved all the stories, especially about the penguins. We were able to get lots of crafts done including Eskimo footprints, walrus, snowy owls, moose, polar bears and penguins. We will be sending those home next week.



We are getting ready to learn all about our country for International Day. Our country will be Australia. We will learn about the animals that live there and talk about the Great Barrier Reef. We will do a presentation of some of the things we learned on Thursday, February 21. We normally do this around 11:00 (we will let you know the exact time soon), and then we all enjoy lunch together from that country. There will be a sign up sheet on the door of things that we think the children might eat from there.



We will also be making tee shirts to wear with an iron on transfer of the Australian flag. I will send home a note next week about the money I will need to collect for this after I price the shirts and transfer paper.

Thanks for all you as parents do for our class! We couldn't do all we do without your help!

Toddler News from Ms. Shannon, Ms. Rachel, & Ms. Kayla



We are so excited for February. This month is International Day on February 21. Our class will be learning about China. I have been so blessed to have had Wanting's mom, Jia, help me to prepare for this month. She has helped me find songs, crafts, and costumes for our class. Wanting and Zoey's families are preparing our Chinese feast for International Day, as well. I really appreciate all their hard work making our day special! International Day is a big deal here at MSR. Please make sure to mark your schedule so you can be here.

A few class notes:

Please make sure to quarter all hotdogs, carrots, and grapes.

All jackets, hats, and clothes need to be labeled.

Remember to layer your child on cold days; we go outside if it's above freezing.

Primary News from Ms. Ana Maria & Ms. Valerie



We are in International day mode. The children have been learning all about the differences and similarities between the United States and Nepal. We have learned about food, musical instruments, and festivals they have. The children are fascinated by the Himalayan Mountains and Mt. Everest. We read a book about the first people to make it to the top of Mt. Everest. Be sure to ask your child about it. (I think the children are ready to take a field trip to the Himalayan Mountains.)



The 2nd and 3rd year students watched a short film about Nepal so they could see the busy streets and the amazing markets. They saw the amazing mountains and the beautiful temples. We have discussed Buddhism and Hinduism and talked about how every country is different and that is what makes the world so special. Be sure to ask your child about the prayer flags and why the Nepali people hang them in the wind.

Be sure to peek into the classroom so you can see how the children are transforming our class into Nepal!

Primary News from Ms. Angie & Ms. Carolina



February is here!!! We can't believe we are entering the busiest, but most fun month yet. International Day will be here soon and we have started learning all about the Philippines. Abby's parent has kindly sent to our class different foods from the Philippines for us to try, and the children have enjoyed it very much, please ask them about the "veggie noodles" (Pansit) and Cupcakes (rice steamed cakes), they have been their favorites. We are lucky to have Abby and her family to help us learn more about their culture. We will be posting the list of foods we will need help with soon, and we will also send home the topics each child will present on that day. Please make sure your calendars are marked to join us for one presentation and lunch on February 21st. If you have anything related to the Philippines studies that you would like to share with our class, please send it in.



We are trying to enjoy as much outside time as we can since our weather varies from day to day, please make sure the children layer up and label everything.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the open house!

Stay warm!

Ms. Angie & Ms. Carolina

Elementary News from Ms. Maggie and Ms. Stefanie



This month we are excited to begin our studies on Ghana for International Day. Not only will we be studying the location of Ghana including its neighboring countries, we'll also be learning about the flora and fauna, history, customs and traditions, native foods, geology, and landforms of Ghana. International day is always an appealing educational experience for the students which integrates all subject areas. Students have opportunities to work on organization of written work and handwriting as they each spend time researching a particular topic related to our international country. This is a time in a Montessori classroom when the 3-year age grouping is especially beneficial to our students as the older third year students assist the younger first years in learning to find and sort information to use as part of our presentation. The older students also offer reading support to the younger students as the research materials can sometimes contain advanced vocabulary which may not be familiar to a younger student.



A favorite component of our International Day celebration is the meal when we all get to experience the delicacies of our International country. We have a sign up list on our classroom door for all parents to participate with your child in preparing Ghanaian fare to share with the class after the presentation. We'll be happy to provide links to recipes if needed. We are currently working on a plan for costumes and will send notification if anything will be needed from home as soon as possible. On February 22nd we will have our International Day presentation in the morning in our classroom. We cannot wait to share our newly acquired knowledge of Ghana and our beautiful artwork with you!

Elementary News from Ms. Dolores & Ms. Robin

Lessons from Don Quixote:

Perception matters! Don Quixote chose to see himself as a knight, the "righter of wrongs" who would "fight the good fight." Though very old, he took bumps and bruises with the best of them; because he believed he could! We may not always be able to control what happens to us, but should strive to control how we perceive it. Perception is everything.

Have some strong values! Don Quixote was ever in pursuit of justice and could not bear to see people suffering. One should always find some values to believe in; from religion, from moral law, or just from their soul. We don't need to strive to be superheroes, just to remember that every little thing we do can change the world.

Commit and persevere! Don Quixote committed to and believed in the purity of his goals. Not only that, he had the courage to turn his back on naysayers, though defeated time and time again. Until his end he kept his attitude positive. No matter how tough life can get, the solution to your problem may be near. Or maybe a dramatic change is needed. Think it over: don't give up!

Use your imagination and dare to be different! Quixote was no knight. But he imagined what a knight was like, got himself a horse, made a makeshift armor, and went out into the world to find adventure. Life is not meant to be dull. Have the courage to go beyond the ordinary in spite of what your audience thinks. Imagine what others cannot—this is often the first step to greatness.

Rediscover literature! Don Quixote spent his entire fortune on volumes filled with the adventures of the greatest knights in the world. Nothing stimulates language development and imagination like reading does. Live with your favorite heroes, hold your breath when something bad happens to them and enjoy the end of a good book. Reading can help you see the world in another way as it shows you how others great thinkers used to see it before you. This is how great ideas can come to your mind and proves to be one of the best pastimes ever invented by people. Get to know Don Quixote right from the source!

If you haven't seen any giants today, you might want to change your perspective and take another look..



Elementary News from Ms. Rebecca & Ms. Kaitlin

<https://guidepostmontessori.com/blog/multi-age-classrooms-montessori>

Montessori classrooms are divided into multi-age groupings, such as from 3 to 6 years. The students stay with one class and one teacher for an entire 3-year cycle. The multi-age classroom is fundamental to the Montessori method. Why do multi-age classrooms work and what are the benefits?

Opportunities for Leadership

Older students have the chance to become mentors to their younger classmates, while learning and practicing important leadership skills. Younger children naturally look up to and emulate older children, and so in a classroom with a range of ages, there are always natural opportunities for a child to be a leader. Older students can learn the joy of teaching their younger peers.

True Peer Learning

Children learn a great deal simply by observing. Having older children in the classroom means that young children are surrounded by teachers-by-example! Watching older children do their work not only provides a model for how to proceed, it motivates young students to practice and achieve mastery over their tasks. They look forward to the day that they can do that kind of work too.



Diversity

By combining multiple age groups into one classroom, the Montessori method creates a diverse environment—since differences in age, for young children, correspond with vast differences in every other ability. One specific benefit of this mixed-age diversity is that it helps to eliminate unhealthy competition between students. Students of similar ages and abilities naturally compare themselves to one another. In a mixed-age classroom, attention is instead drawn to the range of talents and abilities within the class.

Growth Mindset

Both younger and older students have a chance to implicitly develop a “growth mindset” by observing all three years of the learning process in one classroom. Watching younger students progress from one material to the next teaches older students the value of practice and hard work. Conversely, younger students look up to their older classmates, and look forward to reaching their level of ability.

Minimizing Transitions

Finally, it’s worth noting that having a three-year cycle within a classroom is a more stable student and teacher experience. Students get deeply comfortable in a learning environment that fosters their long-term growth, and Montessori guides have a chance to really get to know students over an extended period. Rather than putting effort and energy towards adjusting to a new classroom, teacher and peer group at the beginning of each school year, students remain settled in their classroom and stay engaged and focused on their learning process.



Announcements



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We invite you to connect with us on social media! We post regularly on Facebook and Instagram and just re-launched our Twitter. Please follow us to stay updated on school events and to view a ton of great photos of our students at work. We look forward to connecting and communicating with you. We hope you like and comment on our posts and feel free to ask any questions or share our content with family and friends.

SCHOOL MESSENGER: To opt in to receive text messages from school messenger please text the letter **y** or **yes** to **67587**. We use school messenger to update parents on weather, delayed openings or school closures, etc.

Warm Wishes,
Chandler Lawrence
Administrative Assistant

Yearbook

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