

Children's House Newsletter 2012

Dear Parents,

Winter has finally arrived to Central Ohio, and we are more than halfway through the school year! It is wonderful to observe everyone working so hard, becoming more independent, and taking on leadership roles. At this point most of the children are coming in without their parents, hanging up their own coats and going straight to work. This is a most exciting time of the year!

Spontaneous Activity:

It is natural for children to talk, move, touch things, and explore the world around them. Any true Montessori environment encourages children to move about freely, within reasonable limits of appropriate behavior. Much of the time the children select work that has been presented to them individually and that captures their interest and attention, although the Montessori educator also strives to draw their attention and capture their interests in new challenges and areas of inquiry. And even within this atmosphere of spontaneous activity, students do eventually have to master the basic skills of their culture, even if initially they would prefer to avoid them. (Source: The 20 Best Practices of an Authentic Montessori School by Tim Seldin and Paul Epstein 2003)

Celebrations:

During this month of February we will celebrate Montessori Education Week, Catholic Schools Week, Black History Month, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, and President's Day.

Valentine's Day is one of the favorite holidays of the year for the children. They love the excitement of selecting and making valentines and the hard work of signing their names so many times. At school, each child will decorate a bag, which will serve as his/her mailbox. **DO NOT PUT NAMES ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE VALENTINE CARDS.** This makes the delivery process much smoother. Our Valentines exchange will be on **Tuesday, February 14th.**

INTEREST FAIR: February 23 @ 5:30pm Primary Classrooms and Ryan Hall

Interest Fair is coming-Primary, Middle School, and Kindergarten students have been working hard on projects that include written papers, 3-Dimensional objects, and trifold boards. They have chosen topics that interest them and they are working towards becoming experts on these topics.

Reminders:

The weather is becoming colder at the blink of an eye. Please send **HATS AND MITTENS** with your child's initials or names if possible. Also, please check your child's extra clothes box.

Dates to Remember:

Valentine's Day Celebration – Tuesday, February 14th

President's Day – February 20th - NO SCHOOL/EXTENDED DAY CARE

Interest Fair – February 23rd – 5:30pm RYAN HALL/PRIMARY CLASSROOMS

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES – MARCH 3-7

SPRING GALA – MARCH 10th

We look forward to an exciting next few months with everyone!

Sincerely,

Your Children's House Staff