



Friday Notes October 4, 2019

Calendar

- October 7-11** - BOOK FAIR & Spirit week
October 8 - SJMS Connect meeting @ Drunch Eatery + Bar 995 N. 4th st. 43201
October 8 - Board of Trustees Meeting 6-7:30 pm in Maria Montessori Room
October 9 - Positive Discipline Course, 6:00 - 7:30 pm (must be pre-registered, #4 of 6-week course)
October 10 - Journey to Discovery. 5:00-7:30 pm. Dinner and childcare provided. Must pre-register.
October 11 - Children's House Pumpkin Patch Visit: 9:00 am - 12:00 PM
October 11 - **EARLY DISMISSAL ALL LEVELS (12:00pm) NO EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM**
October 14-18 - Terra Nova Testing Grades 4 year - 8 year students
October 15 - Mass 10:00 am, Sacred Heart Church
October 16 - Positive Discipline Course, 6:00-7:30 pm, (must be pre-registered, 5 of 6-week course)
October 18 - Admission Open House for CH-Lower elementary 9:00-10:30 am for Prospective parents
October 18 - Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser: 4:00-7:00 pm, Ryan Hall
-

**Where there is charity and wisdom,
there is neither fear nor ignorance.
-St. Francis of Assisi**

Dear Families,

Another busy week has come and gone and it is amazing that it is already October. I hope that the cooler fall weather affords you some time to get out and enjoy all that autumn the mid-west offers; pumpkins, mums, changing leaves, and bonfires.

Service learning is an important component of any high-fidelity Montessori program. Giving back to the school community, local community, and even global community are tied to our Portrait of the St. Joseph Montessori School Graduate characteristic of Global Citizenship. I do believe that as the Head of School at SJMS, it is my responsibility to lead by example.

I will be traveling back to northeast Indiana this weekend to speak at the Northeast Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children conference. My topic will be Positive Discipline. I was honored to be asked and feel fortunate to be able to connect with early childhood educators from all across northern Ohio and Indiana. I'll be presenting two sessions, but will also find some time to visit friends and family from back home.

I've also had the good fortune to connect with Mt. Carmel Hospice here in Columbus as they seek to establish a Montessori program for their Dementia patients. There is much research about the positive impact Montessori style lessons and curricular materials have on the well-being and brain stimulation of Dementia patients. I will be working with the hospice volunteers to learn Montessori philosophy, lesson construction, and delivery, and to develop a bit of curriculum. I will help them set up their program so they can deliver services to the elderly in their care. I feel honored that they sought out my services and I am happy to give back to the Columbus community.

Enjoy the weekend with your children and thank you for allowing us to have an impact on the future.

Sincerely,
Brenda

**Montessori Matters
Outdoor Education
by Spanish teacher Kristian Hartzell**



From September 15-October 15, our country celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month. During this time, many Latin America countries celebrate their Independence Day. Not only is it a time for Americans to recognize the contributions of many famous Hispanic-Americans, but it is also a time to dig deep and learn more about the Spanish-speaking world.

With middle schoolers, I decided to use this time to focus on some true everyday heroes I came to know while on a mission trip

to Guatemala. I traveled with a group of students from my daughter's high school through an International Catholic organization called *Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH)- Our Little Brothers and Sisters Orphanage*. NPH has 9 different homes, or campuses throughout Latin America. The Guatemala home called Casa San Andres is home to over 200 *pequeños* (children). On site, the campus includes the homes where they live, a church, a health clinic, a dining hall, many greenhouses, a recycling center, a Montessori school, a middle school and for recreation, a track and soccer fields.

The caretakers who live with the *pequeños* are called *tíos y tías* (aunts and uncles). They live together in homes as a family unit. Just like in a traditional family, busy schedules are maintained and all help to do chores. Everyone has a role in keeping the family unit up and running. Children are taught from a very young age the values of responsibility, cleanliness, order, self-discipline and most of all, human dignity. One home called *Sacred Heart of Jesus (Sagrado Corazón de Jesús)* provides 1:1 care, 24/7 to children with severe physical and mental disabilities. At NPH, *all* life is valued, loved and nurtured, but the special needs population is held in highest regard.

At NPH, they are self-sustaining, so they grow and harvest much of their own food. In addition, they have the following workshops available where older students can learn a variety of practical technical skills: a bakery, a carpentry shop, a metal shop, and a seamstress shop. NPH also partners with the local community to provide assistance to those outside of the orphanage who are living in much worse conditions.

The middle schoolers at SJMS really appreciated this learning experience! After viewing a slide show of my photos from my trip, and watching a short NPH [video](#), they were asked to reflect on what they learned. Here are a few of their comments about NPH: *"I think NPH is good and it's impressive how well the children are treated"*, *"I think the people at NPH are doing a great thing for kids who don't have a family"*, *"It's a very cool facility doing a great thing"*, *"It's happy and sad to me"*, Here are two links where you can learn more about [NPH](#).



Our Annual Spaghetti Dinner is 2 Weeks Away!

The SJMS Annual Spaghetti Dinner takes place in Ryan Hall on Friday, October 18. Pre-order your tickets before October 16 and save! Adult meals are \$8 each, children 3 and older are \$5 each, and children two and under are free!

Gluten-free and vegan meals are available too, though they must be pre-ordered by Wednesday, October 16 so we have enough. Order forms have been sent home, but you

can also order your tickets on our [website](#). We hope to see you there! (Did we mention we even have take-out options??) [Order form here.](#)



International Children's Day Parade Thursday, Oct. 24, 9am

International Children's Day is an annual tradition at SJMS! Children are invited to dress up in something typical of a country of their choice and participate in a morning parade. Parents, please don't panic! These don't need to be authentic national costumes although if you do have one, it will be wonderful to see kids dressed up this way.

In the past, we have had Russian ballerinas, European kings and queens, children wearing a kimono, clothes from India and China, a sombrero to represent Mexico, etc. Let your imagination and the content of your closet guide you but NO Halloween costumes please!

The parade will start promptly at 9:00 am. All Children's House and Lower Elementary students will participate.

Journey and Discovery - October 10

On October 10, participate in our Parent Education Course, Journey and Discovery.



Our Head of School, Brenda Huth, will lead parents on a journey of discovering what life is like inside a Montessori classroom. While you can read about the Montessori experience, this class will allow you to explore the continuum of the school and experience Montessori the way your children do. Space is limited, so register early! Dinner will be provided for course participants and children in the childcare option. Childcare will be available for currently enrolled SJMS students. [Sign up here to attend and for childcare.](#)

Fall Book Fair Starts October 7-11



The SJMS Fall Book Fair is coming next week– October 7-11. Students will visit the book fair during the week to select their favorites. Books can be purchased from 8:00-9:00 am each morning, or 3:00-6:00 pm each afternoon. Students can either bring the exact amount of money required for the books they wish to purchase, OR parents may set a limit (say, \$20, for example) and their children may spend up to that amount on books of their choice. Any remainder will be a donation to SJMS. We can accept cash, checks, and credit cards. SJMS teachers will also designate books they need for their classrooms. Please consider donating a book to SJMS. Check out the [Signup Genius](#) for available time slots.



Winter Fest Shirt Design Contest

The SJMS Family Association is hosting a shirt design contest for the Winter Fest shirt. The Rules and Guidelines sheet as well as the [submission form](#) was sent home in backpacks today. Submissions can be submitted by email or by dropping a paper copy in the SJMS before midnight on October 11. The winner will be selected at the Family Association meeting on Monday, October 22. The winner will receive a free shirt and 50 activity tickets for Winter Fest on Saturday, December 7.



Schedule change for 4 weeks.

September 30 through October 25, 2019:

Nurse Chris will be here on

Monday, Tuesday, & Friday



Battle of the Books Club

A club for 5-8 year students. Club runs October 10- March 12 on Thursdays. The club meets on Thursday's during the students lunch hour in the library. They eat lunch together and share what they have been reading. There is no club

fee.

[Register here](#) [Print this form and return with club fee.](#)

Doodlers Unite Club

Doodlers Unite is a club for Upper Elementary students. Students will explore art, develop their drawing skills, and hone in on a personal style. Club will meet on Fridays at 12:00 pm in the Art room. A \$20 fee covers a tee shirt, sketch pad & pencils. After registration the fee will be added to your Smart Tuition account. Space is limited to the first 18 students registered.

[Register Here](#) [Print this form and return with club fee.](#)



PAINT CLUB

Paint Club

Paint club is an opportunity for Middle School students to expand their painting skills and interest in art.

[Register here](#) [Print this form and return with club fee.](#)

October- November

Portrait of A Graduate Characteristic: **confidence**

Virtue link: **perseverance**

Confident learners stick to their tasks because they know they will eventually succeed. They possess this inner quality of "grit" because they have been treated with respect by the adults in their lives and are comfortably aware of their own potential.



Perseverance vs. Determination

Which one is right for your goals?

What's the difference? Obviously, consistent and temporary are complete opposite terms.

But, what's the difference between perseverance and determination? In technical terms, perseverance is considered "steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success," and determination is considered "firm or fixed intention." [Click to continue reading.](#)

A prayer of *St. Francis of Assisi's*.

"Now, wherever we are,
and in every place,
and at every hour,
throughout each time of each day,
may all of us honestly and humbly believe,
holding in our hearts
to love, honor,
adore, serve,
praise, bless,
glorify, exalt,
magnify, and give thanks
to the Most High and Eternal God,
Trinity and Unity.
Amen."

