

The Montessorian

Published for the St. Joseph Montessori School Community

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A Tree Grows Strong



Photo: R. Holmitch

Our proud apple tree growers.

In the Fall of 2009, when students in Primary 2 were studying the legendary character, Johnny Appleseed, and decided to enhance their study of Johnny Appleseed by planting an apple tree on the grounds of the SJMS. Under the direction of Kathy Koehler, they visited Oakland Nursery and selected a young apple tree. 5th grader Cecelia Martin (who was a 1st grader at the time) remembers that the tree was only a few feet high. The students planted the tree on the west side of the school near the picnic tables.

For four seasons, the apple tree grew. A few buds and apples started to appear, but only a few.

In the fall of 2013, new school Librarian Annie Ruefle noticed the apple tree – which had about 25 apples growing on it -- during the first time she had re-

cess duty. She asked students about the tree, and several students said they had helped plant the tree when they were in Primary 2. Kathy explained that 2013 was the first season a significant amount of apples were growing on the tree, and Annie asked current MS students who had been Primary 2 students if they might be interested in making pies from the long-ago planted tree. They said yes!

On a beautiful September afternoon, current MS students who had been in Primary 2 in 2009 helped pick the apples; no ladder was needed, because though the tree has grown since 2009, the 7th grade students were able to reach the uppermost branches. We filled a basket with apples and were ready to go.

>> Continued on Page 3 >>

New Staff Welcomed to SJMS

This year, we welcome new teachers into our happy family.

Leading our ship is Matt Brenner, our new Head of School. Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Matt later attended Northeastern High School in Manchester, Pennsylvania. He was a Rotary Exchange student who traveled to Sweden in high school. Matt then received his B.A. and his M.A. in Liberal Arts from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. He has lived and worked in Paris and the South of France. Matt is happily married and has three children.

New to the SJMS community is Mamta Singh. Mamta is partnered with Carol Durbin's in Children's House 4. Mamta recently moved to Columbus from Cincinnati where she worked at Xavier Montessori Lab School. Mamta holds a Master's degree in Psychology from India and a Montessori teaching diploma from Montessori Center International in London, U.K. She comes to us with over ten years of teaching experience in multiple countries.

Also joining us is Yiseul Chung in Primary 2 with Kathy Koehler. Yiseul received her 6-9 Montessori credentials from Xavier University. She is originally from South Korea and came to the USA with her family at the age of thirteen. She majored in Family Studies and minored in Statistics at Miami University.

We also welcome Sarah Weber as the new Extended Day Coordinator. Sarah earned her B.S. at The Ohio State University and was a Lower Elementary Assistant for the Montessori School of Dayton from 2011-2013. Starting this summer, and for the next two summers, she will be attending the Montessori



L-R: Yiseul Chung (Primary level), Mamta Singh(Children's House level), Matt Brenner (Head of School), Annie Ruefle (Librarian), and Ben Prater (Band Director)

Training Center of New England for her AMI Elementary certificate (6-12 years).

Annie Ruefle comes to us from St. Mary's of German Village with over 28 years of library experience and many great ideas for library lessons. She attended The Ohio State University for her BA and MA in English Literature. "I love my work. I love working with all the different ages; I love finding just the right book for a struggling reader, and I love to discover books for eager readers who devour books." She has 4 grown children, and happily married.

This year, Ben Prater leads our band as our band instructor. Ben has been involved in music since he was a very young child. Graduating from Bexley High School in the Spring of 2007, Ben went on to graduate from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, receiving his

Bachelor of Music in Education. He has assisted with numerous high school band programs including Johnstown High School, Bexley High School, Graham High School, Vinton County High School, and Wellston High School. "I would like to thank everyone for making me feel welcome and right at home here at SJMS! It has been a blast getting to know the students and seeing what wonderful musicians they are! I can already tell this year is going to be a great one and am already looking forward to showcasing the musical talents we have in band this year. Thank you, again, to Sandra, the SJMS staff, students, parents, and community for making my experience very welcome and enjoyable thus far!"

Our school family continues to grow each year with wonderful new teachers and staff to share their love of learning.

Maria Says...
Insightful quotes from Maria Montessori

"Free the child's potential,
and you will transform him into the world."

Mohican Outdoor School

By: Olivia Shuff
Middle School

On September 25th, the 5th and 6th graders had their bags packed for an exciting two-night and three-day adventure to Mohican Outdoor School in Butler, Ohio.

The children learned lots of new things and a little about responsibility. The students were divided into four tribes. Each tribe had some students from SJMS and St. Catherine. Each day started at 7:30am when the students would wake up and head to the dining hall for breakfast.



Photo: K. McKenna

Nicholas Olmstead (MS) takes aim in the archery course.

After breakfast, the students would do their chores. Chores included things like cleaning the floor after meals, animal care, cleaning the game room, and taking out the trash. Once done, morning classes were held with a break for dinner (yes, it was called dinner, not lunch) followed by afternoon classes. Some classes were: hiking, geocaching, archery, and microscopes. When the afternoon classes were complete, the students had supper followed by social time.

The food at Mohican was delicious. After social time, the students had an evening activity. Two favorite evening activities were campfire and the Dutch auction. Mohican Outdoor School was really fun and SJMS middle schoolers are already excited about going next year.

<< from Page 1 <<

Students came to the Library during recess for the next two days. They took turns completing all the jobs of making a homemade pie: peeling, coring, and slicing the apples; rolling out the homemade pie dough; mixing together the cinnamon, nutmeg and sugar; and putting all of that together into the pie pans. It was messy, busy, and lots of fun. And it was delicious to sneak a taste of the apples as they were swimming in the cinnamon/sugar mixture.

After the four pies were baked, all the current MS students who helped plant the apple pie tree five years ago had a slice of pie –and there was enough pie for many of the teachers to have a piece, as well. The pies tasted so good that Matt, our Head of School, asked for a second piece of pie, and 7th grader Nick Rieser said that “it was the best pie ever!”

Apple Tree (cont.)



Photo: A. Ruefle

Jill Rosenberry, Miles Fleming, Joe Tinapple, and Eoin O'Carroll (MS) worked with Annie Ruefle to make delicious apple pies.

A Big Thank You for the Big Give!



Photo: B. Quisenberry

Thank you for your support!

By: Belinda Quisenberry
Director of Development
and Communications

SJMS Community - You are Amazing!

Preliminary results show that St. Joseph Montessori School received 84 transactions totaling \$ 24,952.94, including bonus pool and credit card fee reimbursement funds, during The Big Give!

The last time the Foundation sponsored a Big Give was in 2011. SJMS

received \$10,000 from the community and \$2,100 from the Foundation. This year's total was over double!! We are over half way to our \$40,000 goal for 2013-2014.

When the foundation releases the names of the donors to us we will process your receipts and thank you letters promptly. In the meantime, please stop by the office and fill out a "Giving Full Circle" logo to be placed on our "giving Full Circle" wall.

We are amazed by your generosity! Thank you again SJMS community!

Skate Night at SkateZone 71

To get our students excited about Skate Night, Skato, the mascot from SkateZone 71 visited our elementary students at lunch. He greeted students at the door and passed out stickers.

Everyone had a smile on their face, and was ready to go skating with our special visitor.



Photo: R. Holonitch

Mauro Meleca (P3) and Kevin Slotterbeck (MS) greeted Skato from SkateZone 71 with big hugs.

Family Association Care Committee Partnership

The Care Committee is excited to announce a partnership with The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio (RMHC). This partnership is an opportunity for our school to volunteer and give back to the community. RMHC provides housing to families of seriously ill children being treated at Nation-

wide Children's Hospital and other area hospitals.

If you would like more information about the partnership or how you can be involved read the Care Committee flyer here and/or contact Susan Hessler, Care Committee Chair, at hessler@columbus.rr.com.



RONALD McDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES

Start of School Kick-Off Event

By: Amirah Lomax
Middle School



Photo: R. Holonitch

Balloon hats and animals were new features to our Kick-Off Event.

We have a sweet way to kick off the school year. On August 22nd, our entire SJMS school community was invited to attend the Ice-Cream Social, held in Ryan Hall. This was an opportunity for new and returning families to meet families, sign up for volunteer opportunities, get a balloon hat or animal, and taste some delicious ice-cream from the CD102.5 Ice-Cream truck – with special thanks to Randy Malloy. This event is planned by Family Association, and all our dedicated parents.

“T’was a nice way to reunite with old pals after a loooong summer,” said Madeline French.

Catholic Schools Week

By: Cathy Johanni
Religion Specialist

You may have noticed posters around the school. Students made them to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. We highlighted themes of community, faith, knowledge and service.

Many classes have been reading and discussing stories related to these important characteristics of Catholic Montessori education. Some classes made cards for Ronald McDonald House families, the charity which the SJMS Family Association is supporting with service projects this year. In Art class, the primary students talked about spiritual bouquets. In Religion class, we talked about the varieties of “flowers” in God’s garden, and how each type contributes to the overall beauty. Several classes made learning chains, symbolizing all the growth that happens in our community. Children wrote “I know statements” celebrating their learn-



Photo: C. Johanni

Primary students created Spiritual Bouquets, as well as the “I Know...” chain as a border.

ing goals, and linked them together to form an enormous paper chain. Children experienced the real benefits of service when middle school students visited Children’s House, to read with

and to the younger students.

We are grateful for the opportunities to grow and learn together at SJMS!

The First Recipients of the Rosenberry Family Scholarship Fund at St. Joseph Montessori School

By: Belinda Quisenberry
Director of Development
and Communications

Adam Hohl and Ayisha Marawi knew immediately upon touring St. Joseph Montessori School (SJMS) in the spring of 2012 that the private Catholic Montessori school was the place for their two children Lilla (6) and Isaac (4). "We loved the people and sensed a very close knit community." Diagnosed with a brain tumor in June of 2009, Ayisha decided, along with her husband, that moving back to Ohio to be closer to family and enrolling their children at SJMS was best for the family. "If something happened, we knew we wanted our children to be at St. Joseph Montessori School."

Ayisha's battle with cancer has included 24 rounds of chemotherapy and surgery to remove part of the tumor. Future treatments are likely as she continues to live with the disease. For most people with cancer, living with the disease is the biggest challenge they have ever faced. It can change routines, roles, and relationships. It can cause work and financial issues. In the spring of 2013 Ayisha and Adam were beginning to wonder if they could afford to keep Lilla and Isaac at SJMS. With a \$3,000 scholarship award from the Rosenberry

Family Scholarship Fund the Hohl children will be able to continue at SJMS this fall.

The Rosenberry Scholarship fund was established in 2011 in honor of Brenda and Jill Rosenberry. Brenda, the mother, and Jill, the daughter and SJMS Primary student, were both battling cancer at the same time. After a valiant four year battle against triple negative breast cancer Brenda lost her battle in June 2011. Jill, diagnosed in 2007 with T Cell Lymphoma, underwent chemotherapy and eighteen radiation treatments. She is currently in remission

and a bright and vibrant 5th grader at SJMS.

Funds from the Rosenberry Family Scholarship Fund benefit families of St. Joseph Montessori School that have been impacted by a life threatening illness or a life altering condition. Funds are applied directly to the cost of tuition. For more information about the Rosenberry Family Scholarship Fund or how you can contribute please contact Belinda Quisenberry, Director of Development and Communications, at bquisenb@cducation.org or (614) 291-8601.



Photo: R. Holmitch

Our first scholarship recipients are recognized at our Kick-Off Event.

Father Antonio Joins Sacred Heart Church



Photo: B. Quisenberry

Father Antonio

Father Antonio will be celebrating Masses with our SJMS Community.

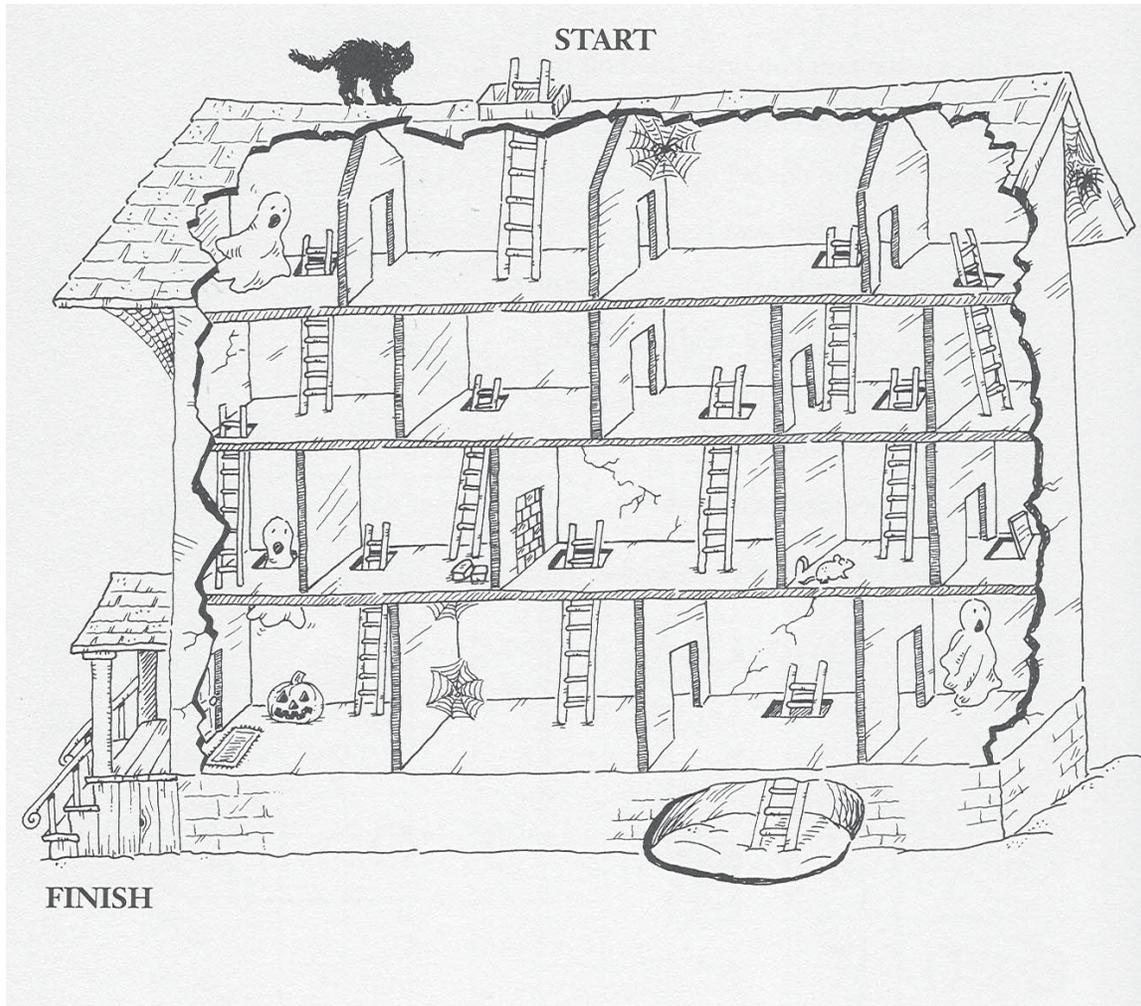
Originally from Brazil, he attended seminary in Rome and was ordained in Tivoli. He worked in Massachusetts and came to Ohio to do further study in Dayton. He has been working with the Brazilian community in Columbus and with the Spanish community of

Santa Cruz, as well as administering the Holy Name Parish, near the Ohio State University. Additionally, he will be serving St. John the Baptist Parish and Sacred Heart Parish, as well. With so many responsibilities, we are absolutely delighted that Fr. Antonio is making time to share his love of Christ with the SJMS community! Please welcome him!

monty jr.

Haunted House Maze

You're trapped on the roof of a haunted house, and have to find your way through the house and out the front door. Use ladders and doorways to help you escape. Watch where you are going! Some rooms and stairs lead to dead ends.



Try this and other fun activities in "Brain Games for Kids"
Publications International, Ltd. - 2010

Support SJMS on Your Next Shopping Trip



There are many programs available at local stores that support our school.

SJMS Athletics



Sawyer, Adam, and Duke celebrate with their coaches, Bob and John.

Congratulations to Sawyer Mapes, Adam Fellows, and Duke Daniel (MS) for wrapping up a winning soccer season with the St. Mary's Rams! The 4th and 5th grade Rams went 6-3-1 in the regular season and finished second place in their conference. Bob and John Faller, of our Erdkinder classroom, were assistant coaches for the team and did an excellent job supporting the group and representing SJMS.

St. Joseph Montessori School students entering grades 4-8 have the opportunity to join with St. Mary's School in German Village to play volleyball, basketball, soccer, track, baseball, and/or softball. Boys and Girls basketball sign-ups will be coming soon! Look for an announcement coming soon in Friday Notes!

A Moment of Silence for 9/11

On September 11th, our students took a moment to remember the lives lost in the tragedy 12 years ago. Most classrooms met by the flagpole and recited our Pledge of Allegiance together. It was a touching moment to witness.



Students gathered around the flag pole in memory of 9/11.

A Whale?!? ...in Ryan Hall?

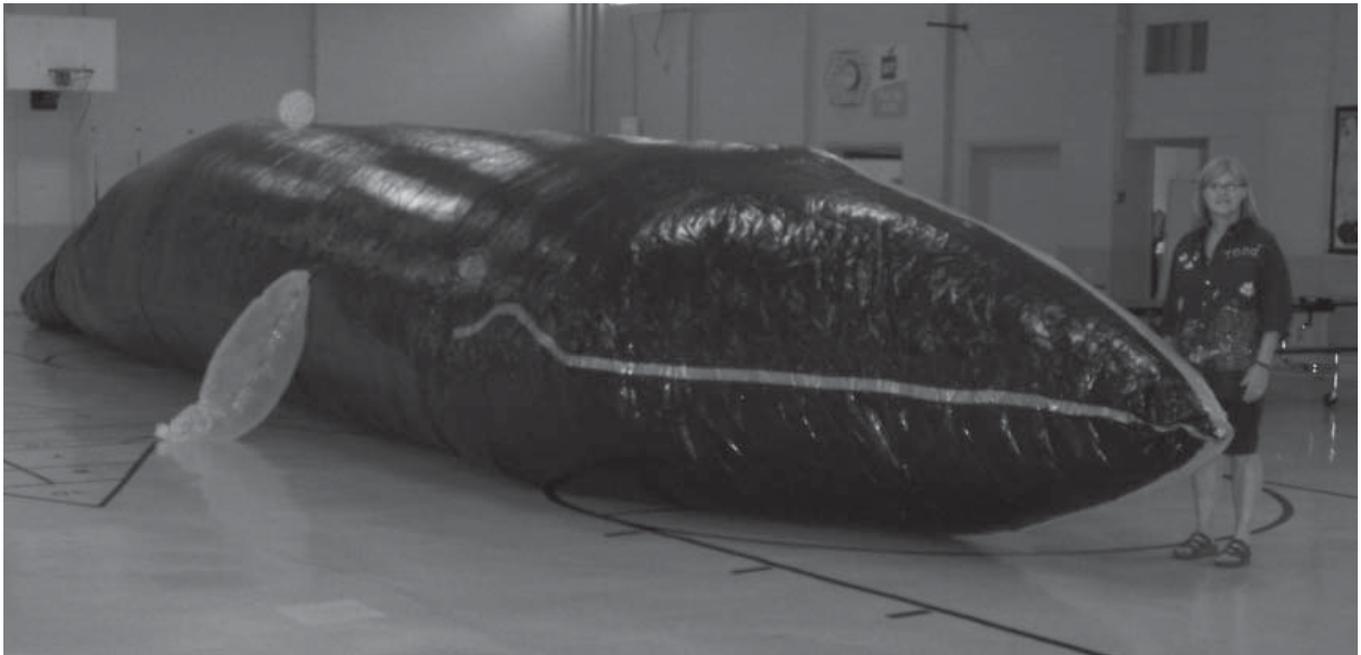


Photo: R. Holonitch

Annie Ruefle with her "pet" whale.

By: McKenna Merriman
Middle School

On Monday, September 30th, a whale visited our school. Yes, a whale. Annie Ruefle, our new school librarian, brought

in a life-size inflatable model of a Right Whale to be displayed and explored. In Ryan Hall, students were allowed to walk the length of the giant warm-blooded creature. Annie thought it would be great to bring in, since a group of children were

studying sea life and fish.

"It was cool because it was life-size. If it was real, that would have been even cooler," said Eoin O'Carroll of Middle School.

Pumpkin Patch Field Trip



Photo: R. Holonitch

Ruby Stewart (CH1) picked out a perfect pumpkin.

On October 16th, the students in our Children's House classrooms enjoyed a field trip to Circle S Farms in Grove City.

The children enjoyed some playtime in the hay barn and maze, a delicious donut and apple juice, and a hayride with friends.

Each child also chose a special pumpkin to take home and decorate.

Birthday Book Program in Our Library

During the month your child has a birthday, please look for a letter from the Library inviting your child to celebrate a birthday by donating a NEW book to the Library!

For a small donation, a book of your child's choice will be added to our Library's collection with a photo (if provided), a birthday candle sticker

on the spine, and a special birthday label on the front. Your child will enjoy knowing that other students at SJMS will be able to share their book for years to come!

If you have questions please contact Annie Ruefle, the School Librarian, at aruefle@cducation.org.



Erdkinder Fundraising Earnings

The Erdkinder class is working hard to raise money for their class trip in May.

We would like to thank you for supporting us now and in the future. We appreciate your continued support and participation in our fundraisers.

School Supply Sale...\$1000

Gallery Hop Babysitting & Bake Sale.....\$594



7th Grade Bake Sale

Help Update Our Montessorian Archive

This summer, our Montessorian and SJMS Yearbook archive was organized. We noticed there are spots where items were not saved. If you have a missing copy, we would appreciate your donation to our cause.

- The Montessorian
- March/April 1986
- May/June 1987
- March/April 1996
- January/February 1998
- November/December 1998
- November/December 1999
- June 2005

SJMS Yearbook
1992-1993

Guess Who? Answer



Matt Brenner
Head of School

Guess Who? jr. Answer



Olivia Shuff
Middle School

Alumni News

Class of 1999

Signe Anderson

On June 22, Signe Anderson exchanged vows with Drew Yoder in a beautiful evening ceremony at Taylor Mansion. Erin Anderson, her sister, was maid of honor, along with 170 guests attended this wonderful event. Signe and Drew enjoyed their honeymoon in St. Lucia. Signe works as a speech therapist and Drew is an 8th grade teacher.



Photo: S. Anderson

Class of 2001

Lily Bierley

Lily Bierley has recently graduated from the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in Nashville, Tennessee. Congratulations, Lily!



Photo: L. Bierley

Class of 2004

Lauren Speed

Last spring, Lauren Speed graduated from Kent State University with a degree in Fashion Merchandising. She now lives in Houston, Texas and is a bridal consultant at Mis Bridal Couture.



Photo: L. Speed

For another year, our proud alumni returned to our summer camp to work as head teachers, assistants, and camp leaders.

Bethany Torres (SJMS Class of 1999) became Summer Camp Coordinator, while Laura Phillips (SJMS 1999-2004) was her assistant in the summer camp office.

Signe Anderson (SJMS Class of 1999) worked as Head Teacher in Children's House and Bobby Jones (SJMS Class of 2004) worked in Lower and Upper Elementary. Jaime Grinch (SJMS Class of 2007) was an assistant in Children's House.

We are so happy to have our alumni come back each summer to help make our camp a huge success.

Alumni Help with Summer Camp



Photo: R. Holonitch

Alumni News

Bowling Party Reunion



While celebrating the end of the school year at our annual bowling party, some of our recent graduates stopped by to say hello and share highlights from their first year of high school. John Markiewicz, Zoe Mak, Sally Squires, Isabella Bocija, and Gabrielle Eismann (SJMS 2012) were all smiles remembering “the good ole’ days” at SJMS.

Class of 2012

Sally Squires



Sally has recently joined the company of Shadowbox Live here in Columbus. Sally performed as a featured dancer in “Madness and Lust,” a contemporary dance theater interpretation of Wuthering Heights. She will also be a member of the chorus in “Spamalot,” which is described as a very “chorus-heavy” show, and is based on “Monty Python and the Holy Grail.”

Class of 2010

Thomas Moore

Over the summer, Thomas Moore attended a three-week preview class at the Columbus College of Art & Design for students interested in a career in visual arts.

Class of 2011

Delaney Morphew



Delaney Morphew is spending 6 months in Ethiopia with her family. Her mother received a grant to work and teach.

Colby Albanese

For his junior year in high school, Colby has been elected as Class President at Bishop Ready High School.

facebook

We want to be your “Friend” on Facebook.

You can also email us an update to Roxanne at rholonit@cdeducation.org

Zoe Mak

Last summer, Zoe Mak earned the World History award at the Wellington School’s Awards Ceremony. The recipient of this award is someone who is engaged in debate, thinks creatively about history, and serves as a role model for the class.

Andres Walliser-Wejebe

Andres has been featured in promotional materials for Bishop Ready High School, featuring his great experience at SJMS. As a sophomore, Andres is in Art Club, Speech and Debate, Varsity Soccer, and was accepted into Beta Club.

St. Joseph Montessori School
Winter Festival: 2013



Alumni Room

Sunday, December 2nd
12:00noon - 5:00pm

When you visit the alumni room, you will receive a \$2 coupon for the Food Court in Ryan Hall.



Aug - Sept - Oct 2013

Calendar of Events

October

27: SJMS Open House (3 - 5pm)

November

1: Carpool Coffee

2: Gallery Hop Babysitting

7: Curriculum Night

19 & 21: Parent/ Teacher Conf.

25 & 26: Parent/Teacher Conf.

27 - 29: Thanksgiving Holiday
NO SCHOOL

December

6: Carpool Coffee

8: Winter Festival

12: Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

18: Cookies & Carols

20 - Jan. 5: Christmas Holiday
NO SCHOOL

January

6: Classes resume

14: Board of Trustees Meeting

16: Moving Up Night, 6pm

20: MLK Day, NO SCHOOL



SJMS

Guess Who?

Read the clues and check out the picture to our "Guess Who?" in this issue. The answer is located on page 9.



1. "Guess Who?" was born in Baltimore, Maryland.
2. "Guess Who?" favorite color is green.
3. At the age of 10, "Guess Who?" wanted to be a foot doctor.
4. "Guess Who?" is afraid of sky diving.

Guess Who? jr.

1. "Guess Who? jr" started SJMS at the age of 3.
2. "Guess Who? jr." loves to try new foods.
3. "guess Who? jr." loves Harry Potter.
4. "Guess Who? jr." enjoys swimming and dancing.

The answer can be found on page 9.



Newspaper Staff

Advisor

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rholonit@cducation.org

Printer

rDesign Printing
Columbus, OH

Special Thanks

Matt Brenner

Do you have ideas?

Would you like to contribute to
The Montessorian?

We are always looking for new
writers or photographers.