

Monday Montessori Moments



Monday February 8, 2016

A Message from the Curriculum Specialist: Kacey Weaver

"If we are to teach real peace in this world... we shall have to begin with the children." —Mahatma Gandhi

Maria Montessori was nominated for the Nobel Peace prize three times; in 1949, 1950 and 1951. "Her writings explicitly make a connection to education for peace. She passionately argued (perhaps most notably before the United Nations) that education was a means—perhaps the only genuine means—of eliminating war once and for all. Without explicit and intentional moral and spiritual education, she believed, mankind would inevitably revert to its habit of war. Values such as global citizenship, personal responsibility, and respect for diversity, she argued, must be both an implicit and explicit part of every child's and adult's education" (C. Duckworth).

At MMA, we hold these values every bit as crucial as the subjects of math, language and science. Our goal is to support your children in becoming constructive contributors to their community. Even with the best peace education, children, like adults are still human; there are times when we say or do hurtful things without fully understanding how it may affect others. Teaching children to be peacemakers is like learning to do long division. First you must learn how to hold a pencil, then to do addition, subtraction, multiplication, basic division, and finally you are able to combine all of those skills through repeated practice to complete a long division problem.

Likewise children must have repeated practice with many building blocks to gain a final understanding of what it means to be kind and generous, then these skills must be practiced repeatedly in order to be incorporated naturally into their everyday life, or they will be lost. Unfortunately not all children see models of peaceful interactions or get enough practice being kind and generous outside of the school walls. Every child is on their own path, it is our goal as educators to find the light within each child and build it into a glowing fire that will warm others hearts and minds.

We are very excited about an upcoming opportunity for your children. The [Golden Rule Project](#) will be here on February 22nd to present to the upper elementary and junior high students. Please feel free to join your student at either 12:45 (upper elementary) or 2:05 (junior high) in our gymnasium. We look forward to this opportunity.

If you would like ideas about bringing peaceful interactions into your home, or if you have concerns about anything, as always, never hesitate to contact me.

FEBRUARY

February 9th-11th
~Early Out @ 1pm,
Parent Teacher
Conferences,
Purchase Gala
Tickets and Register
for Ski Night

February 12th
No School,
Teacher
Compensation Day

February 15th
No School,
Washington &
Lincoln Day

February 16th
Box Top Store

February 23rd
Ski Night at Nordic
Valley, at 4pm



March 2nd
Dr. Seuss Day

March 9-10th
Maturation
Programs for 5th, 7th,
8th and 9th grade

March 15th
Boxtops Store

March 24th
Ski Night at Powder
Mountain



What's New at MMA?



Parent Teacher Conferences Are Here!

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held **February 9th thru 11th**. If you have not yet signed up for a conference through your teacher's blog, or are unable to meet on one of these days, please contact your student's teacher.

The book fair will be set up in the library for you to purchase books after 1:00 pm. You may also purchase your Gala tickets, so don't miss out!



Community Rewards

We are so grateful to Smith's and our parents for the support that you give our school! This month we were rewarded with a check for \$588.75 from Smith's, because of the parents who registered MMA in their community rewards. If you would like to help give back to our school please follow these instructions:

Go to Smithsfoodanddrug.com and sign into your account. Once you're in there, it will say Welcome Back above your name. Click on your name and it will take you to your account. Scroll to the bottom and click on Community Rewards and select MMA (you can search by name or type in our code: 80168).

Visit their website at

www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/topic/community/#/community-rewards-3.

Thank you for your continued support of your local Smith's store.

Come Join Us on MMA Ski Night!

We're excited to announce our 2016 Ski Night dates! The first night will be held Tuesday, Feb 23rd at 4:00pm- **Nordic Valley**. Prices are: \$12.50 for pass, \$28.50 pass, and rental, \$48.50 pass, rental, and lesson.

The second will be held Thursday, March 24th- **Powder Mountain**. Prices are: \$15 for pass or \$35 pass, rental, and lesson.

There will be a shuttle available at "Eden Park & Ride" for \$2 per person. Registration for both ski nights will be during PTC Feb. 9th-11th from 1pm-6pm. Other registration dates TBA.



Maria Montessori Academy will be having our annual Science Fair. Our 4th and 5th graders Science Fair day is on February 17th, 6th and 8th graders Science Fair day is on February 18th. **The Fair will be open to parents and the public from 3:00- 5:00 on the 17th and 18th after school.**

It's Soccer Season!

MMA would really love to have a co-ed soccer team this year for grades 6-9. While nothing is yet set in stone, we are beginning the process of finding some coaches. If you are interested in helping coach, please email Anna Hafen

ahafen@mariamontessoriacademy.org.