

# Monday Montessori Moments



Monday, September 12, 2016

## *The Process of Normalization*

In Montessori education, the term "normalization" has a specialized meaning. "Normal" does not refer to what is considered to be "typical" or "average" or even "usual." "Normalization" does not refer to a process of being forced to conform. Instead, Maria Montessori used the terms "normal" and "normalization" to describe a unique process she observed in child development.

E.M. Standing (*Maria Montessori: Her Life and Work*, 1957) lists these as the characteristics of normalization: love of order, love of work, spontaneous concentration, attachment to reality, love of silence and of working alone, sublimation of the possessive instinct, power to act from real choice, obedience, independence and initiative, spontaneous self-discipline, and joy. Montessori believed that these are the truly "normal" characteristics of childhood, which emerge when children's developmental needs are met.

Montessori observed that when children are allowed freedom in an environment suited to their needs, they blossom. After a period of intense concentration, working with materials that fully engage their interest, children appear to be refreshed and contented. Through continued concentrated work of their own choice, children grow in inner discipline and peace. She called this process "normalization" and cited it as "the most important single result of our whole work" (*The Absorbent Mind*, 1949).

She went on to write,

*Only "normalised" children, aided by their environment, show in their subsequent development those wonderful powers that we describe: spontaneous discipline, continuous and happy work, social sentiments of help and sympathy for others. . . . An interesting piece of work, freely chosen, which has the virtue of inducing concentration rather than fatigue, adds to the child's energies and mental capacities, and leads him to self-mastery. . . . One is tempted to say that the children are performing spiritual exercises, having found the path of self-perfectionment and of ascent to the inner heights of the soul. (Maria Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*, 1949)*

<http://www.montessori-namta.org/The-Process-of-Normalization>



September 15<sup>th</sup>

6:30 pm Freshman  
Field Trip Parent  
Meeting

September 17<sup>th</sup>

MMA 5K @  
8:00AM and  
Pancake Breakfast @  
9:00 AM

September 21<sup>st</sup>

International Day of  
Peace

September 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Early Out.**  
AM Kinder: 8:30-  
10:30  
PM Kinder: 11:00-  
1:00  
1<sup>st</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Grade:  
8:30-1:00

October 3<sup>rd</sup>

-Normalization Ends  
-Jr. High Fees are  
Due

October 6<sup>th</sup>

MMA Paid Substitute  
Training 9:00 AM-  
12:00 PM

October 14<sup>th</sup>

End of Quarter



We are looking forward to our first Box Tops Store on **Tuesday, September 20th**. The Box Tops Store will be in the **North Kiva**.

**Only students who show cut/non expired Box Tops or MMA Box Top Tickets will have permission to visit the store. They must show the teacher or assistant their "proof" before being permitted to visit the store.**

# What's New at MMA?



THE MISSION OF THE CROW CANYON ARCHAEOLOGICAL CENTER IS TO ADVANCE AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE THROUGH ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH, EDUCATION PROGRAMS, AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH AMERICAN INDIANS.



## 9/15/2016 6:30 PM 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENT/STUDENT INFO NIGHT

Join us on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> in the Yurt at MMA JH to discuss your child's 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. We will be sharing information about the 9<sup>th</sup> grade capstone field experience, high school credits, and answering your questions.

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ACADEMY  
Jr. High *education for a better world*



### Compost Bin Donations:

We are in need of wiring and wood to complete our compost bins. We have a volunteer who will help build the lids and doors once we obtain the materials!

#### Materials Needed:

- 2x4 pieces of wood
- Chicken Wire or Wire Mesh

Please email [Ms Leigh](mailto:Ms Leigh) if you are going to bring any of these items. That way we will be sure to have the items and make sure we won't have too many. All donations are greatly appreciated!



### MMA Substitute Training!

Have you ever thought about becoming a substitute teacher? Well you should! MMA is currently looking for more substitute teachers! The school will be holding a paid substitute training here at the school on **October 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM**. This training will be only for individuals who are interested in being on the MMA Substitute list. Substitutes must complete an employee background check through the school and complete new hire paperwork before attending the training. Please contact the front office for more information!

## Rumbi Island Wednesdays!

Beginning Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, MMA will be offering our families the opportunity to purchase a rice bowl from Rumbi Island Grill every Wednesday for their child's lunch. All proceeds from the purchases will go towards our 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade end of year fieldtrips. Your choices will consist of:



**Teriyaki Chicken & Veggie with White Rice- \$4.00**  
**Orange Chicken with White Rice- \$4.00**



To order a rice bowl on Wednesday's for your child, please follow the payment link below:

<https://secureinstantpayments.com?Event=2375>

Orders must be submitted by the Monday prior to Rumbi Wednesday. Any orders submitted after Monday, will be added to the following week's order. For any questions regarding Rumbi Wednesday, please contact Melanie in the front office.

## Free Public Positive Discipline Workshop!

Are you interested in The Positive Discipline Parent Workshop, but are unable to attend the paid workshop? Then you need to attend the FREE lecture held on Thursday September 22 from 6:00-8:00 PM! It will be held At Maria Montessori Academy and is open to the public.

MARIA MONTESSORI  
ACADEMY

*education for a better world.*



Presents

# Positive Discipline

## For Developing Capable Young People



With Mary Nelsen Tamborski

Free Public Lecture

Thursday, September 22, 2016 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Parent Workshop - \$95 or \$150 per couple

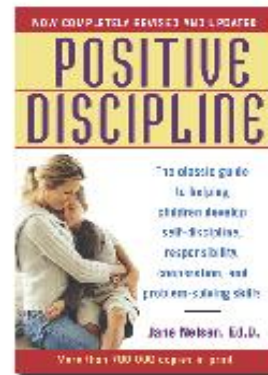
Saturday, September 24, 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm

To register visit [www.marytamborski.com](http://www.marytamborski.com)

Participants will be engaged in experiential activities and role-plays to get into their child's world and deepen their understanding of non-punitive methods for teaching children valuable social and life skills.

## Learn to Teach Children

**Self-Discipline**  
**Responsibility**  
**Cooperation**  
**Problem-Solving Skills**  
**Respect for Self & Others**  
**Belief in Personal Capability**  
**And Much More!**



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[www.mariamontessoriacademy.org](http://www.mariamontessoriacademy.org)