

# Monday Montessori Moments



Monday, November 14, 2016

## A Message from the Curriculum Specialist: Kacee Weaver

Maria Montessori was born in 1870. She became one of the first female physicians in Rome, Italy. After her graduation she worked with developmentally disabled children and observed that all children were uniquely intelligent. She tested her educational theories using hands-on, interest based learning and observed that each child is uniquely intelligent.

The first Montessori school opened in 1907. It served 60 students in the slums of Italy ages one to six years of age. By “preparing the environment” and “following the child” Montessori found remarkable improvement in student development when compared to traditional forms of education. Maria Montessori handed down a legacy of educational philosophy and there are currently 20,000 Montessori schools worldwide with 4,500 of them in the United States. Here at MMA we strive to keep as close to valued Montessori beliefs as possible. Below are definitions of core Montessori philosophies that we, as a school, hold dear:

**Prepared Environment:** The Montessori teacher believes that most student misbehavior can be resolved by preparing the classroom or school environment for the child’s needs. This includes keeping a clean and organized classroom as well as observing students’ interests and creating “works” for them to learn from.

**Practical Life:** Montessori teachers believe in “education for life”. This includes lessons in sewing, map reading, cleaning of the classroom environment, social interactions, self-calming, nutrition and many others. Students are given opportunities to learn concentration, coordination and self-control through activities that will serve them throughout their lives.

**Classroom Community:** Each classroom is a community. Students are able to be leaders, followers, teachers and learners. We believe that every child has something unique to offer to the classroom and we value differences in backgrounds and opinions.

**Grace and Courtesy:** Through explicit instruction in social behavior, children are able to develop and refine social skills while building self-esteem and independence. Your child will receive specific lessons about how to politely interrupt someone, say “please” and “thank you”, how to introduce themselves, or someone else and push in a chair silently. “The skills often cited as most important [by employers] are self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy and social skills. In addition, the most frequent cause of job failure is lack of self-control and an inability to get along with others” (Vitto, 2003, P. 10), the Grace & Courtesy lessons your child will receive will help them become successful and employable adults.

If you ever have questions about Montessori Methods please feel free to reach out to your student’s teacher, or email me at [kweaver@mariamontessoriacademy.org](mailto:kweaver@mariamontessoriacademy.org).

-Kacee Weaver

November 15<sup>th</sup>

-Box Top Store

November 16<sup>th</sup>

-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Redwoods  
Money is Due

November 17<sup>th</sup>

-Gratitude Feast  
-Thespian Society  
Performance  
@ 7:00 pm

November 18<sup>th</sup>

-Mustache November

November 21<sup>st</sup>

-9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Crow Canyon Money  
is Due

November 21<sup>st</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup>

-No School

December 9<sup>th</sup>

Early Out

AM Kinder: 8:30 - 10:30

PM Kinder: 11:00 - 1:00

1<sup>st</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade: 8:30 - 1:00

December 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>

-International Festival

December 20<sup>th</sup>

-Box Tops Store

# What's New at MMA?

## Original Works

Due Today (November 14, 2016)

Parents don't forget to order your students artwork by November 14<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser will benefit directly to your student's classroom. Your student should have brought home an original works sheet that has all the information to order students artwork online. If you have any questions you can contact Rachel Bush at 801-390-8624.

## Celebration of Life Book Donations

Have you ever wondered what to do to celebrate your child's birthday at MMA? You can honor your child by donating a book to the school library during their Celebration of Life Ceremony. Look for recommendations on books here:

<https://www.juniorlibraryguild.com/awards/view.dT/outstanding-book-lists/international-literacy-association/childrens-choices-2016-reading-list>

<https://www.juniorlibraryguild.com/awards/view.dT/outstanding-book-lists/international-literacy-association/teachers-choices-2016-reading-list>

## Mustache November

The Jr. High will be selling mustaches on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Each mustache will cost \$1, and can be worn that day by the students. Sales will be made in the morning on the 18<sup>th</sup> by the front office. Make sure to pick yours up!



## Order Your Yearbook!!

Follow these steps to order your 2016-2017 MMA Yearbooks:

Step 1: Visit [www.memorybook.com/parentpay](http://www.memorybook.com/parentpay)

Step 2: Enter your pay code **83444**

Step 3: Buy a standard yearbook for \$20 or a personalized yearbook for \$25

Special early bird pricing ends January 15th!



MMA's third annual Spelling Bee is quickly approaching! We are looking for a parent or community member to help Ms. Kacee organize and facilitate the fun and educational event. If you are interested please contact Ms. Kacee at [kweaver@mariamontessoriacademy.org](mailto:kweaver@mariamontessoriacademy.org) no later than November 30th.

## Gratitude Feast

On Thursday November 17th we are hosting a Gratitude Feast for a number of local companies and people who have helped out our community. If you would like to donate your time or items please sign up on our WeJoinIn sheet.

[Wejoinin | Maria Montessori Gratitude Feast](#)