

Maria Montessori School News

A Reflection of our School

January 2009

Calendar of Events

January 21	Noon	Hot Lunch (D'reen's Catering)
January 26		Professional Development Day - No School for Students
February 5	2:15 p.m.	Staff Meeting - Early dismissal for Students
February 9	7:00 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
February 11		Newsletter Submissions Due
February 11	7:00 p.m.	Open House
February 16		Family Day - No School
February 17-18		Mid Term Break - No School
February 19-20		Professional Development Days - No School for Students

News from the Office

by Miss Kelly

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope you all had a relaxing holiday and are ready for 2009 - another year of wondrous learning for your children.

I would like to thank the wonderful families at MMS for the well wishes and lovely gifts I received before the holidays. I truly appreciate it.

We would like to welcome BJ Harris to MMS. Mr. BJ is the Director of our Upper Elementary classroom and our Music Director. Music classes will resume for all students the week of January 19, so stay tuned next month for an update.

Two new students have joined our Casa 1 class, Hailey Knelsen and Calista Nolan. Welcome to you both!

I would like to remind all of our parents that if your child is late for school or is not going

to be in class, please call the office at 955-3852 and let us know.

Thank you to Aden's mom, Roxane (Quiznos), for providing our December hot lunch. It was, as the children told us, "yummy" and very much enjoyed by all! Our next hot lunch will be on Wednesday, January 21 provided by Dreen, Alis' mom (D'reen's Catering). **Forms are due back by 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 19.**

Upper Elementary

by Mr. BJ

I am excited to be a part of the Maria Montessori school team and wish to thank the staff and students for helping to make his transition into the role of Upper Elementary Director a smooth one.

Currently, the Upper Elementary students are engaged in a mapping unit for culture class, and have been working on song lyrics in music, exploring concepts such as theme, form, rhyme, and rhythm.

In the weeks ahead, we will be looking at an astronomy unit, as well as exploring the various forms of energy, focusing on light and sound.

Lower Elementary

by Miss Tina

We trust you had an enjoyable break over the holiday season. I know the children and I all agreed that we enjoyed our time off.

Now we are back into the routine of settling into the work cycle. It is pleasing to see the grade one's improving in their reading and writing and working for more sustained periods of time. It is also pleasing to see the increased independence of the grade two's and three's and the positive way they support the younger students in their learning. The new year provides an opportunity for kindergarten students to begin thinking about

trying new challenges. Emma Peterson from Casa 2 has been visiting us as she prepares for grade one. We really enjoy her visits.

In the afternoon, we are working on mapping skills including understanding compass directions, map legends, symbols and creating our own maps. The children have been highly interested in this topic and look forward to working on it every day.

Keep warm during this wintery weather.

Casa 1

By Miss Kristy

Casa 1 would like to welcome two new students to our class, Hailey and Calista. Welcome girls, we are happy to have you as part of our class. We have had a busy first couple of weeks getting back into the routine of things and reviewing our rules and routines of the classroom. A lot of things get forgotten during the holidays. We will be talking more about the season of winter this month and look forward to doing art projects related to winter. We have been reading many books related to winter and snow, seeing how we do have a lot of it around us!! The children have been staying inside for recess lately because of the extreme cold, but the children still go outside sometimes so please remember to always send the proper clothing with your child so they are prepared for the weather. Thank you.

This month we would like to wish Calista a happy birthday. We hope you have a great day!

We would like to thank Adam's family for the dry erase markers.

I would like to thank all of the parents for their wonderful support and help so far this year. We appreciated it so much! I look forward to the months ahead and I know we are going to have a great rest of the year!

Stay warm!!

Casa 2 by Miss Janis

Welcome back! We hope that everyone had an enjoyable break. We are very happy with how quickly the students have settled back into our routine.

With all the snow and cold weather it has been difficult for us to get outside for recess. However, please continue to send appropriate winter clothing for your child in the event that it is nice enough to go outside. We also understand that the roads are quite bad some mornings and realize that some of you may be late. We have a new attendance system in place. The office will call you if we haven't received a message from you letting us know where your child is.

We are starting to plan our class trips for the remainder of the school year. If you have any suggestions for outings or special guests we could invite in the classroom please let me know.

Casa 2 would like to welcome Mary to our afternoon program. Cody is our only student to celebrate a January birthday. We hope you enjoyed our special day!

Core French by Madame Linda

Happy new year to all core French students and their families.

There are new students in all classrooms so the first two weeks of January have been dedicated to review.

In Upper Elementary we have reviewed the months of the year, the numbers from one to fifty, the conjugation of verbs and the construction of sentences.

In Lower Elementary, we have reviewed the months of the year, clothing and shapes.

Future plans for both classrooms include a small unit on mapping.

In the Casa, we have reviewed shapes, colours and the numbers from one to ten. We are beginning a unit on winter clothing. Here is some of the vocabulary: les bottes (boots), les mitaines (mittens), une echarpe (scarf), un habit de neige (snowsuit), une tuque (tuque), un chandail (sweater) and les pantalons (pants).

All core French students will be learning vocabulary and doing activities related to the 55th "Carnaval du Quebec" which opens in Quebec City on January 30th.



“...Our Sensory Material, in fact, analyses and represents the attributes of things: dimensions, forms, colours, smoothness or roughness of surface, weight, temperature, flavour, noise, sounds...”

Maria Montessori

We need your Help

We are looking for donations for our before & after care programs

- *Barbies
- *Barbie Clothes
- *Barbie Toys

- *Wood Blocks

- *Match Box Cars

- *Markers

- *Wax Crayons

- *Puzzles - up to 100 pieces



Get your kids cooking with

Cooking Classes for Kids



FEBRUARY BREAK

Feb 16-20
Monday to Friday

Cooking fun for kids

Cost \$100.00

Ages 5-8 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Ages 9-11 12:00-2:15 p.m.

Ages 12-14 3:00-5:30 p.m.

International Cooking Discoveries For Kids

Cost \$120

Ages 8-12

3:45-6:15 pm.

March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

Cooking Basics For Kids

Cost \$100.00

Ages 8-12

3:45-6:00 p.m.

January 20th, 27th

February 3rd, 10th

For more information visit www.dreens.com