
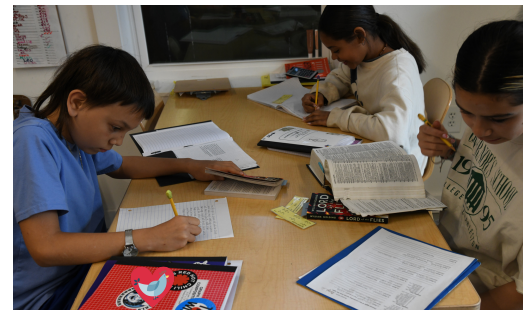


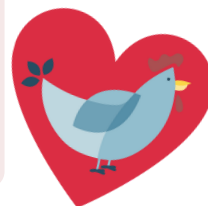
Upper Elementary

Written by Louisa Clarkson

Upper El has been busy in the New Year. We had our third and final health seminar with Nurse Practitioner Abby. We really appreciate her taking the time to come talk with us about our bodies and their changes. We recently had our January community lunch of tomato soup, grilled cheese and peach cobbler with ice cream. Yum! Each grade is diligently working through different academic areas. Fourth graders are diving into their study of botany. They are  currently studying the interdependent relationship between the root and the leaves. Fifth graders are close to receiving the story of Pi in their study of the Circle. Sixth graders are continuing the Tree of Life, animal classification. They have finished their study on invertebrates which ended in a dissection of an earthworm. As an entire class we are eager to finish our curriculum on US History and begin the study of ancient civilizations. We have established a story line for our spring play too!



Look through the newsletter to find ten MSC chickens in hearts like this one!



 February 2024



A Monthly Look Into the Montessori School of Columbia

Montessori Matters

Development News


Valentine's Day Celebration

We are looking forward to the annual whole-school MSC Valentine's Day Celebration on Wednesday, February 14th from 10am to 12pm. We'll have a DJ with dancing, Valentine's Day crafts, pizza & gluten free pizza, and sweet treats. Thank you to the volunteers who have signed up to set up, bring treats, watch students during the party, help with crafts, deliver pizza and clean up. Thank you!

A Night at the Oscars: MSC's Annual Auction Event

Planning is well underway for our annual silent auction fundraiser and party. This is a fun event for adults so book the sitters and start planning your outfit! The theme is "A Night at the Oscars" and will be hosted in the Club Lounge at Segra Park on Friday, March 15th from 7pm to 11pm. Tickets go on sale February 15th! If you would like to help with securing items for the auction, help with the secret projects or decorate, please **contact Michael Drennan** at development@montessoricolumbia.com or **803-888-1755**



Thank you to the many MSC families who have already donated to the 2023-2024 Annual Fund! If you haven't made your gift yet then please make a donation that is meaningful for your family. We love to have all families participating in the Annual Fund. The Fund is critical in bridging the gap between tuition revenue and the true cost of a Montessori education. You can donate by scanning the MSC Venmo QR Code or by delivering cash or check to the MSC  office. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you!



Primary

Happy New Year, MSC families!

We are off to a great start as we transition into this new year. The children continue to thrive as they focus on their educational journey. In the classrooms, we have been having conversations about Winter as the weather has provided us with some very cold mornings. We have been practicing putting on our winter clothes and discussing animal hibernation, the changes we see in nature, and how snow happens. Please be sure to check that your child has two sets of winter clothes here at school (one for the classroom and one for Building D).

As we move into February, there are a few important events about which we would like to remind you. MSC's second Conference Day of this school year will be held on February 9th. Please be sure that you have signed up for a time slot on the sign-up schedule sent to you by your child's teacher. Our whole school will be celebrating Love and Appreciation together on February 14th. On February 20th, we will have our Primary Watch Me Work Night. Please check that you have signed up for a time slot on the sign up sent from the Administration.

Over the next couple of months, we will be sending out more information about upcoming field trips and our spring concert. We look forward to seeing you at these events!

"Do not tell them how to do it. Show them how to do it and do not say a word. If you tell them, they will watch your lips move."

Thanks to our auction sponsors...

Save the Date for the MSC Auction: Friday, March 15, 2024, 7-11pm

BLYTHEWOOD
VILLAGE DENTISTRY



Palmetto

Dear Families,

Palmetto students are hard at work every day. The children have been building strong connections and friendships, which became beneficial and are incorporated into our work ethic. It is so lovely to observe them helping and guiding each other throughout the day. The first years have been actively working on fractions equivalence and fraction multiplication. More cultural work was also presented to the firsts as we talked about the origins of the names of the months. They have been working on grammar, too, symbolizing parts of speech and enriching their vocabulary.

The seconds and thirds are also working on grammar. Many children have been symbolizing poetry of their choice, making their work even more fun. Thirds have been learning more about angles, bisecting angles, squaring on pegboard, integrations, large bead frame, and more. Every Wednesday, each grade practices writing/grammar lessons. The children also have an opportunity to follow up on their Spanish lessons. We are working on our planning, updating, and recording our work, filing our finished work in our binders, and keeping our lockers tidy and clean. The children, taking turns, have an opportunity to lead the daily meetings, discuss any business we have, present their "work to share" or "home share". This activity gives them the chance to build their leadership skills in an organic way. We have been reading "Because of Winn-Dixie" by Kate DiCamillo and reflecting on it in our journals. We help the children by creating a word bank for them and providing questions they can answer. *Who is your favorite character? What would you do if you were this character?* We have been extremely successful with our sustained silent reading, where each child has an opportunity to enjoy a book of their choice and then share it with the group.

We are so very proud of all the hard work that the children have been doing. From taking care of the environment and the pets, to working on big projects as a group. We are always excited to share more of our wonderful and productive activities with you!

Best, Iryna and Michael

Magnolia



Here in the Magnolia Room, we are so excited to share with you the amazing things we have been doing since our last newsletter. We just finished our timeline of life, making it through the Cenozoic Era, the Era we are currently living in. To close our studies on geological time, we were presented the Long Black Strip, where we can understand just how long humans have been on Earth in comparison to all other organisms.

Our class is powering through research. This semester we have already had seven presentations! They include topics such as: Giant Pandas, Komodo Dragons, Imperial Eagles, Coin Collecting, Boa Constrictors, Clouded Leopards, and Sharks.

Magnolia Room Third Graders, Zoe H., Rory B., and Jo H. M., organized a charity drive for local pet shelters. Their group, Pet Friends, collected food, toys, towels, and blankets that they plan to distribute to five local animal shelters. Also recently, Ms. Misty has been gone for three weeks. She was helping her father who was ill, but now she is back, and we welcome her with open arms.

We look forward to sharing with you all next month! Be well!

-Rory Boroughs and Zoe Hartman- Magnolia Room 3rd Graders