

MONTESORI  
CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
CENTER  
NEWSLETTER  
January 2019

[www.montessorichilddevelopment.com](http://www.montessorichilddevelopment.com)

Parent-Teacher  
Conference

Please sign up for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Parent-Teacher conference on Monday, February 11. Your child's teacher will discuss your child's progress and goals for the second term. This is a great time to ask questions and learn more about the foundational lessons being presented to your child to prepare him or her to the next level. The school will be closed, and daycare will be available during your conference time only. First term progress reports are given out, as well.

Self-portrait T-shirt

The most popular school t-shirt is back! Your child will draw his or her self-portrait, and it will be printed on a t-shirt with all their friends. It's so cool, but it can only be ordered in one printing. So be sure to pre-order yours today. Forms will be sent out on January 16. Place your order form and \$10 in the self-portrait envelope. Adult sizes are available and are great gifts for the entire family.

Thank You!

Thank you for donating to the Orangewood Foundation Holiday Collection. A big thanks to the Louw family, the Tam family, and the Lau Family for delivering the Thanksgiving and Holiday donations.

Happy New Year!

We are excited to be back, and we look forward to an exciting new year. We hope everyone had a restful, fun, and well-needed family time together. We are ready to tackle this new year, to learn new things, to make new friends, and to create new memories. Welcome back to MCDC!

Our holidays were so special because of all the warmth and love we received from our families at MCDC. It is always a joy being a part of your children's lives. We are grateful to you for giving us the strength to teach, the motivation to inspire children, and the drive to make a positive change in children's lives.

Thank you for your holiday wishes and generous gifts. Thank you for volunteering in our classrooms. Thank you for your support. Thank you for a wonderful 2018!

January Events

Monday, January 21

Dr. Martin Luther King.  
Jr. Day  
(School Closed)

Friday, January 25

Last day to RSVP for  
Kinder and Elementary  
Day

Upcoming Events

Friday, February 1

Kindergarten and Elementary  
Information Day  
5-6 p.m.

Monday, February 11

Parent/Teacher Conference  
School Closed. Daycare during  
conference time only.

Holiday Show

Thank you for joining us on last year's holiday show, Peter Pan. The children enjoy this annual tradition and look forward to their stage performances. The elementary students are already planning next year's musical!

All the wonderful things that happen on stage is a collaboration of our teachers and parent volunteers. We are grateful for Ms. Anna, Ms. Ann, Ms. Mary, Ms. Annie, Ms. Erika, Ms. Gabby, Ms. Monique, Ms. Carina, Ms. Jen, Ms. Haidee, Ms. Nikki, Ms. Maria, and Ms. Cyndi. We are lucky to have Mark McHargue help us with our sound system and for Phi Nguyen for pictures.

The children had a stellar performance and so many adorable moments were captured. If you would like to purchase DVDs of the show, we still have a few left. Please make your orders by the 14<sup>th</sup> of January. DVDs are \$25. All profits will go towards next year's musical.

Thank you for your continued support on our theater arts program!

## Kindergarten Information Day

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2 YEARS OLD

ATTICUS 1/14

JULIA 1/24

6 YEARS OLD

HAWAIIKI 1/24

ANNABELLE 1/27

4 YEARS OLD

BRADLEY 1/2

LUCA 1/16

7 YEARS OLD

AUSTIN 1/18

5 YEARS OLD

JOSEPHINE 1/9

EMMA 1/17

10 YEARS OLD

ERIKA 1/29



It's that time of the year where parents have to decide where to place their children for Kindergarten. For most 2nd year Montessori students (typically 4-5 years old), the basic foundation have been presented and it is in the 3rd year (5-6 Kindergarten age) when everything they have absorbed in their two years will begin to make sense. In the 3rd year of Montessori, you will notice spontaneous reading and writing develop further, math becomes more complex and abstract, and many more academic interests become more obvious. Most importantly, the 3rd year Montessori offers these students the opportunity of leadership in the classroom. They begin to teach other students and they become more confident individuals. There are many benefits to finishing the 3 year Montessori cycle. Presented in this Parent Information Day are the Kindergarten curriculum, benefits of the 3rd year Montessori program, and requirements. Invitations have been sent out to those students eligible for Kindergarten. Please RSVP to attend.

## Elementary Information Day

This is a great opportunity for the parents of our current Kindergarten students to learn about the benefits of continuing with the Montessori system of education for the elementary level. If you have seen your child blossom and thrive during their Kindergarten year, just wait and see what they will learn in the elementary years. Elementary students are given the opportunity to explore subject matters such as history, chemistry, biology, botany, zoology, literature, to name a few. They use many tools for learning: such as doing research on a subject matter, reenacting a certain scenes in history or literature, performing numerous hands on activities or experiments, and using the Montessori Elementary materials as a guide to understanding an abstract concept. Our goal is for the child to have a deeper understanding of the subject matter and to make this information meaningful to them. Not only elementary students do well in academics, but they are well versed in different areas, such as, performing in front of an audience, helping their community, playing a musical instrument, conversing and writing in Spanish. Self-confidence and a love for learning become inherent. Motivation and goodness come from within, not through token rewards or a need of praise.

If you haven't set foot in the Elementary classroom, we invite parents of our current Kindergarteners, soon-to-be-1st graders, to attend and to learn more about the Montessori Elementary program. We will discuss the elementary curriculum, requirements, work, and many Montessori materials used in the classroom. Also, at your convenience, we invite you to observe the students during work time and learn more about the class. Please RSVP for this event.

STREET SWEEPING IS EVERY FIRST AND THIRD MONDAYS OF THE MONTH, BETWEEN 12:30 - 2:00 P.M. IF YOU ARE PICKING UP YOUR CHILD AT 12:30, PLEASE PARK IN THE PARKING LOT OR PICK UP BEFORE 12:30 P.M.

## Montessori Q & A

### WHAT ARE THE THREE LEVELS OF OBEDIENCE?

NAMC BLOG/THE ABSORBENT MIND

Obedience is seen something which develops in the child in much the same way as other aspects of his character. At first, it is dictated purely by the impulse, then it rises to the level of consciousness, and thereafter it goes developing stage by stage, till it comes under the control of the conscious will.

This first level of obedience is generally observed in children 3 and under, however, older children may also exhibit disobedience. "Before the child is three, he cannot obey unless the order he receives corresponds with one of his vital urges. He is still busy in the unconscious building up of the mechanisms needed by his own personality, and he has not yet reached the stage when these are so firmly founded that they can serve his wishes and be directed by him consciously." "Even after 3, the little child, must have developed certain qualities before he is able to obey. He cannot, all of a sudden, act in conformity with another person's will, nor can he grasp, from one day to the next, the reason for doing what we require of him." (Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*, 1964)

"The second level is when the child can always obey, or rather, when there are no longer any obstacles deriving from his lack of control. His powers are now consolidated and can be directed not only by his own will, but by the will of another." (Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*, 1964) This may appear to be the highest level of obedience; however, because it is dependent on outside variables (adults or authority figures), this is not true obedience or self-discipline. The child is merely satisfying someone else's wishes, not his own.

The third level of obedience is when the child "responds promptly and with enthusiasm and as he perfects himself in the exercise, he finds happiness in being able to obey." (Montessori, *The Discovery of the Child*, 1967) This is the stage of true self-discipline.

How do you get to this point? You can read more about The Three Levels of Obedience in Dr. Montessori's book, *The Absorbent Mind*.