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Big Thanks!

We would like to thank all our families who donated items, entire baskets, or \$25 gift cards for the Orangewood Thanksgiving basket drive. With your donations, we were able to make 14 baskets. The families are so appreciative of your donations. Thank you to the families who dropped off the baskets, as well.

Thank you to all our parents who helped make our Thanksgiving Feast a success. The children enjoyed the delicious food!

Thank you to everyone who purchased books from our book fair.

We thank our wonderful MCDC families for your continued support.

Orangewood Holiday Donations

This holiday season, our elementary students have selected to donate to Orangewood Foundation. They are in need of personal care and household items for their foster youth. We will have a pizza Friday fundraiser on Friday, December 7 and a Warm Cocoa and Cookies Fundraiser on Thursday, December 6. Please bring **NEW and unwrapped items** from their wish list and mark "donated" on the pizza up. Cocoa and cookies are a donation of \$3. Wish list items are posted in each class. All donations are due by Friday, December 14.

December to Remember

It's the most wonderful time of the year! As you may have already noticed, preparations for the holiday musical have started. Aside from that, we have many wonderful things planned this December. Be sure to mark your calendar for our December activities, so you won't miss a thing.

Pajama Party

Our December would not be complete without a pajama party. It is the one day of the year when parents can send their child off to school right out of bed in his or her pajamas. Breakfast will be served at school. Breakfast potluck will be posted in each classroom. Pizza lunch will also be available to order. We will watch a movie, cuddle up with friends, sip hot chocolate, and enjoy delicious popcorn. Their favorite stuffed toys and furry robes are welcome.

Please let your child's teacher know if you have a movie projector or movies we can borrow. Parent volunteers are welcome to join us for breakfast.

December Events

<p>Friday, December 14 Orangewood Holiday Wish Collection</p>	<p>Monday, December 17 Winter Show <i>(Minimum Day/School closes at 12:30 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Friday, December 21 Movie and Pajama Day</p> <p>December 24- January 4 Winter Recess <i>(School Closed)</i></p>
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Holiday Wishes

From all of the teachers at MCDC, we wish your family a wonderful holiday season. May this season bring peace and joy!

Happy Holidays!



Happy Birthday!

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| <p><u>3 Years Old</u>
JULIAN 12/5</p> <p><u>4 Years Old</u>
ILIANA 12/27
DIMITRI 12/27</p> <p><u>5 Years Old</u>
MAX 12/7
AXEL 12/9
XANDER 12/16</p> <p><u>6 Years Old</u>
BAILEY 12/13</p> | <p><u>7 Years Old</u>
LEO 12/11
LEIA 12/16</p> <p><u>9 Years Old</u>
ANDRE 12/30</p> <p><u>STAFF</u>
MS. CARINA 12/6
MS. ANNIE 12/26</p> |
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Annual Holiday Show

MCDC is proud to present this year's holiday show, Peter Pan. It will be held on Monday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m. at the Carden Conservatory Auditorium. Each family will receive 2 complimentary tickets to the show. Due to limited capacity in the auditorium, requests for additional tickets may not be possible. Please RSVP in your child's classroom. Tickets will be distributed by Friday, December 14.

All students will be performing on stage and each classroom will have a specific attire to wear.

Toddlers – Holiday pajamas

Room 1 – Lost Children of Neverland (Davy crocket style. Please check Pinterest for ideas.)

Room 2: Pirate Servers –White top/ black pants or skirts

Room 3: Lost Boys and Holiday Mermaids – Lost Boys – Please check Pinterest for ideas (can be Disney version or Broadway musical versions of Lost Boys.) Mermaids – Red Top/black leggings

Elementary – Costumes provided . Costumes will be sent home on Friday, December 14.

All Primary students should arrive 15 minutes before show time. Doors will open at 5:45 p.m. Open seating and seats are available on first come basis.

Elementary students should arrive 30 minutes before show time, dressed and with their hair and make-up done and meet at the Carden Music Room.



PARENTS OFTEN ASK WHAT DO TEACHERS LIKE FOR THE HOLIDAYS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A GIFT TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER AND DON'T KNOW WHAT TO GET, WE HAVE A "MY FAVORITE THINGS" LIST IN THE OFFICE OUR STAFF USES FOR OUR SECRET SANTA THAT YOU CAN GET IDEAS FROM. TEACHERS ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR KINDNESS, AND GIFTS TO TEACHERS ARE ENTIRELY OPTIONAL.

Montessori Q & A

An Overview of Peace Education
NAMC

Montessori believed education was the most powerful and universal way through which to reconstruct society; a way to transition from war to peace. Therefore, it is necessary to think of education as peace, not education for peace. While the curriculum teaches about peace, it cannot by itself result in peace. As Montessori teachers, we realize that it is not enough to simply talk about peace. We must create an environment that will promote the development of peaceful individuals. We cannot create this peaceful environment if we ourselves are interacting negatively or competitively with others.

Children easily pick up on pretense around them. The old adage "do as I say, not as I do" no longer is acceptable. It is necessary for adults to look inward and take note of their own beliefs and values. If we teach peace, we must strive for peace in our lives, in our home, and in our workplace. We are the models of peace. We are teaching and nourishing the peace keepers of the future.

Thoughts to Ponder



NAMC

Cultural awareness means being aware of and appreciating the differences in people's attitudes, beliefs, practices, customs, and social behavior.

— NAMC, *Five Great Lessons/Cosmic Education & Peace*, p. 137.

Montessori schools strongly believe in the importance of cosmic education, and give students every opportunity to positively contribute to the world by being caring, considerate, and respectful of one another. It is also important to understand the value of integrating cultural awareness and cultural appreciation into the classroom.

As the end of the year approaches, many delightful celebrations take place throughout the world. One of the riches of the Montessori Method is the message of universal respect to people of different backgrounds, cultures, and countries. Our school honors the many beautiful and wondrous ways that people celebrate, and bring this diverse collection of holiday celebrations from around the World.

What a wonderful experience it would be for children to see the beautiful traditions being celebrated around the world this holiday season.