



MONTESSORI MATTERS



Community Montessori School

Week of March 11, 2010

Note from Mrs. Ashby

Having become a grandparent 17 years ago and again just recently, I am now aware of a whole different way of looking at children. I am now searching for “authorities” who will give me permission to follow my instincts and spoil my grandchildren rotten. The following is an article taken from John Rosemond’s Six Point Plan for Raising Happy, Healthy Children.

All kidding aside, I can remember some of the struggles I had with my parents when my Joey, who is now 42 years old, was a baby. This article will not solve all your problems, but it may give you some sense of relief and humor.)

I agree with late anthropologist Margaret Mead who once wrote, “Grandparents need grandchildren to keep the changing world alive for them, and grandchildren need grandparents to help them know who they are and to give them a sense of human experience in a (past) world they cannot know.”

Grandparents can and should be one of a child’s most valuable resources. At their best, grandparents are gentle teachers of the way life was, and perhaps the way it always should be. Grandparents can also be among parents’ most valuable resources, demonstrating patience and tempering the often brittle seriousness of parenting with the flexibility and humor that only an appreciation for the full panorama of human life can bring.

Problems can arise when grandparents continue to perceive and treat their offspring as children long after their maturity and emancipation. In those cases, the grandchildren often become trapped in the middle of a power struggle between grandparents and parents. No one can win contests such as these, but the biggest losers are always the children.

When Eric was born, Willie and I, like many young parents, tended to be almost neurotically territorial, especially around our own parents. We were excessively sensitive to their “interference” and any suggestions from them, no matter how constructive, was regarded as a criticism.

It galled me, for instance, that my wife’s parents would stuff Eric’s mouth with sweets, his arms with toys, and his pockets with money. The more it galled me, of course, the more they did it. It took us years to realize that grandparents do no harm by “spoiling”.

In fact, I’m now firmly convinced that it is as proper for grandparents to spoil their grandchildren as it is improper for parents to spoil those same children. One of the greatest pleasures of the oldest generation is making children happy, and no one has a right to interfere in that pursuit. We who are betwixt and between the innocence of childhood and the wisdom of old age, caught as we are in the complexities and grandiose seriousness of adulthood, would do well to butt out and let things be.

The rule Willie and I now apply to visits with or from grandparents is this: “When in Rome, do as the Romans do. And when the Romans come for a visit, do as the Romans do.”

It makes life so much simpler.

MARCH, APRIL, MAY CMS 2009-2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

March

12	Friday	No School Parent/Guide Conferences – All Day/Drop in Program in Gym
26	Friday	No School - Spring Break
29, 30, 31	M-T-W	No School - Spring Break

April

1-2	Th., Friday	No School - Spring Break
5	Monday	School Resumes
22	Thursday	General Election and Parent Meeting—Band Concert

May

26	Wed	Last Day of School ALL LEVELS 3-4-5 year olds Leave at 11:35 a.m. dismissal Graduation 1:30 p.m. Regular 3:00 p.m. dismissal Afterschool Program is available
27	Thurs.	Sixth Grade Year End Trip

Reminders: 1) We do save cans for recycling with the money benefiting our programs. You are welcome to add cans you have saved from home to our recycling bin which is in the parking lot with a wooden door facing the parking lot/building.

2) A Parent Survey has gone out about email—please make sure to send your response back into the school office. Thank you!

PRIMARY LEVEL – Franklin, Hughes, Somsel:

Franklin: We are finishing our study of amphibians. We enjoyed celebrating Holi, India's Festival of colors to end our Asia study. We began studying Australia this week. We are also beginning our study of the stringed musical instruments.

Hughes: We are enjoying this beautiful weather. The children are so settled and happy. We are beginning to study birds. We see them outside in our courtyard and hear their beautiful spring songs.

Somsel: We are studying rocks and names of geometric shapes. I have two requests:

- 1) I am needing pint size canning jars—if you have any please send them in to the class.
- 2) I need homes for the classroom animals during spring break. If you would be able to take care of one over break, please call the office as soon as possible.

Thanks!!

LOWER ELEMENTARY – Cencia & Gray:

Gray: We are exploring Irish & Scotch music, art, folktales, and dance. We are collecting details of the signs of spring (thank goodness!) and will be writing poems and limericks. The class is discussing earthquakes and learning about the “plates” and changes that occur as a result of the earth movements.

UPPER ELEMENTARY - O'Loughlin & Simpson:

The Upper Elementary students have launched their science projects! This will be an “in-house” study of acids and bases. Each class has divided up into 3 teams to investigate various aspects of these phenomena and to present their projects to the other elementary classes.

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM:

**Luella Pavey, our art instructor, will not be doing Art Class March 18th or 25th.

**No Improv class the 17th of March.

**Please do not bring any electronic items of any kind to the All Day Program and please do not bring your tech decks sets. We do not want them to get lost or get mixed up with someone else's sets.

Thank you!!!



**Mark your calendar now: 2010 CFE, Friday, November 5th, 7:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.
Celebrating 40 years of Community Montessori School!**

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Always on the go?

Always busy and trying to figure out how to get it all done?

Looking for ways to free up some time & eliminate some stress?

Just like getting things done ahead of time?

If you answered "yes" to even one of these questions, then here is one solution! Challenge yourself to get your "parent obligations for CFE" taken care of **NOW** so you don't have to worry about them later!!

We've always been in the habit of taking care of all of this in the fall when school is starting again, kids activities are starting for fall, we have Fun Fair to be thinking about, work schedules are getting busier again after summer & we are even starting to gear up for the holidays! We want you to know that it is OK to get some of this behind you now and here is a quick checklist of things that must be done by mid-October that we can go ahead & check off our lists:

1) Sell your tickets to the event!

Go ahead now and be thinking of friends, neighbors & family members to ask! When someone asks you to make a purchase for a child's fundraiser (and those are plenty since most schools seem to have several....unlike us with just ONE!), make a deal and tell them you'll buy from them if they go ahead and buy from you!

Remember...this is a great/fun event that people like to attend and the earlier you ask, the more likely they are to get it on their calendar!

2) Turn in your donation!

Think how many places you do business with regularly EVERY day/week or even once a month or quarter! While you're patronizing those businesses and spending your money there, go ahead and ask for a donation! The easiest time to do that is when you're already in there making a purchase! Don't forget any contractors you use too or large purchases you make – home remodels, roofing, basements redo's, furniture/rug/appliance purchases...they can give a donation for services, labor, etc. and/or they can certainly place an ad in the program (which is often more profitable than even a donation)!

AND, while mentioning ads...although not a parent obligation, please remember to ask! Ads do a great deal for our fundraising efforts and again, the best time to ask is while you're there doing some type of transaction with them already, especially since they know they are hitting an audience where they have at least ONE customer – YOU!

We even hope that you will be able to sign up for your CFE “job” soon – we're working on that now!

Thanks for all your efforts...hope this helps lighten the load in the fall!

Remember our Sponsors for 2010!!

2010 Bronze Sponsors

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Great and Simple Ways to Help the Capital Campaign

Many businesses will donate a percentage of a sale back to schools and other non-profit organizations. CMS, Inc. is registered with the following organizations:

Kroger: If you are a frequent Kroger shopper you can come into the school office and pick up a “CMS Kroger Card” – the cards cost \$5.00 (they come “loaded” with \$5.00 on them). When you are shopping, preload the card with your grocery money. Cards can be reloaded over and over again. Every time you use the card CMS will receive 4% of your purchased amount. Just last month CMS received \$250 from Kroger!

Target: Target runs a “Take Charge of Education” donation program. If you have a Target Visa, Target Red Card or a Target Check Card you can select CMS as your dedicated school (#7390). Target will donate a percentage of your purchases back to CMS.

Amazon.com: CMS has signed up for a new program with Amazon.com. Amazon will donate 6% of your purchases back to CMS. In order to take advantage of this you will need to access Amazon through the following web address (we will soon have a direct link on the CMS website):
http://www.amazon.com?_encoding=UTF8&tag=wwwcmsmontess-20.

Good Search and Good Shop: Goodsearch.com is a search engine powered by Yahoo. Designate Community Montessori School in Lexington, KY as your charity. Each time you search the web with GoodSearch's Yahoo-powered search engine, about a penny will go CMS.

There is no obligation to participate in these programs. We just want to make sure our families are aware of these promotions that are available to help raise funds for money that families are already spending. Please contact Katie Toffey in the CMS office if you have any questions.