



Montessori

MAY 2012-2013 News

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTORS



Joan Hayden



Carrie Kile

While thinking about words for the last newsletter of the year, we are reminded about how this time of year brings about many conflicting emotions. It is always a little sad to reach the end of the school year, knowing we

will say goodbye to students who will be moving away, or moving on to other schools. There is some disbelief that many of our current toddlers and primary students will be “graduating” to the next program (we’re a little bit like parents who don’t want kids to grow up!) Then the more sensible Montessori thoughts take over and we are reminded that growth, independence and maturity are exactly what we all strive for. We applaud all of our students!

This seems to be an appropriate time to thank all of our parents who trust us at Peace Montessori to be the best educators for your children. We humbly accept the challenge!

We want to thank you again for your participation in “The Art of Peace.” Many of you who could not attend have helped by purchasing your child’s art and photos. We are so pleased with the results of this important fundraiser. With your help we raised over \$18,000!

Clearly our families at Peace understand and support the importance of fundraising in keeping tuition manageable, offering additional programming, and assisting families with

financial aid. We want you all to know how much we appreciate your participation.

Here is a synopsis of our fundraising programs and the outcomes this year:

“The Art of Peace” Benefit Dinner/Silent Auction	\$18,000
Annual Bowl-A-Thon	\$7,900
Annual Fund	\$4,700
Miscellaneous (Target, Red Robin, Raffles, Box Tops, Cash donations, etc.)	\$5,300

There are still some spots available for summer camp. If you are interested in some or all of our weekly programs, stop by the front desk for registration information.

Lastly, if you have still not turned in your applications for fall, or know someone who would be interested in Peace, please don’t delay. We have a record number of students enrolled in all classes and, at this point, have some classrooms already at capacity.

Wishing you all a safe and happy summer season!





During the last week of school, it is a good idea to send in at least one large bag (paper grocery, or reusable grocery bag) for your child's teacher to send things home in.



Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Annual Benefit Dinner and Auction, we raised over \$18,000! We were so pleased with the outcome. Thank you all!

LIBRARY NEWS

May 2013



As the end of this school year approaches we need students and parents to search the house for books borrowed from our school library. Currently, we have over 800 titles out on loan. In order to repair and reshel items all materials need to be returned by **Friday, May 17th**. Thank you!

Parents, did you know research shows that reading just six books during the summer may keep a new or struggling reader from losing ground? Plus, if a child chooses the books, they are more likely to finish reading them. To help young readers maintain their skills the Allen County Library

offers several summer reading programs for children ages birth through 5th grade. Check out www.acpl.info for updates and schedule information. In addition to those services, **Half Price Books** and **Barnes and Noble Booksellers** have summer reading programs which provide an opportunity for kids to earn free books. Search online for details on these great summer reading resources.

It has been a joy to work with your children and watch their reading and research skills develop throughout the year. I look forward to seeing your young readers again in the fall.

Have a safe and fun summer,

Miss Lori

CLASSROOM NEWS

May 2013

TODDLER 1



Lisa Magsamen

Happy May to all our families! We have had a very busy last few weeks in our classroom as we were preparing for the school fundraiser. The children had a great time working on their individual art pieces, and the class project turned out beautiful! A special thanks to Ms. Charlotte for adding her artistic talent to our project.

Puzzles have been very popular the last couple of weeks. We have two large floor jigsaw puzzles, and also a variety of smaller jigsaw puzzles. The larger puzzles have forty-eight pieces, where as our smaller puzzles can have up to eight pieces. The children can choose to do the smaller puzzles at a table or rug, and many times we find children working cooperatively together on the larger floor puzzles. Puzzles encourage the child to use trial and error to make pieces fit, as well as hand eye coordination and large gross motor movements. You can see how proud and excited the child is when the puzzle is completed!

We have been working with tools in our class. We have a screwdriver work which allows the children to practice fine-motor turning while keeping the screwdriver in the groove

of the screw. They unscrew the screws one by one, then put them back into the holes, and screw them back down again. It's very challenging to put the screw back in the hole in just the right place to be able to screw it down again. It takes concentration and patience to do this work.

We have had some very nice days where the weather has cooperated with our very energetic friends. We have been able to get outside in the sunshine most days, and even had to put sun block on our students last week. It got really warm! Please remember to dress your child appropriately for the weather and to bring in extra clothes, as needed. We will be sending home all extra clothing and supplies the last few days of school.

As we near the end of school we want to tell you all again how much we have loved working with your children. As teachers we have learned so much from your children and greatly appreciate you sharing them with us. For those friends returning next school year, we wish you a wonderful summer, and we will see you in the fall. To our friends that we have to say good-bye, thank you for the memories, and best wishes to you. Come visit often. Thank you all for a fantastic year!

TODDLER 2



Jodie Zehner



Alicia Purdy



Carrie Johnson



Kelly Whitehead

The theme in our classroom is the Ocean. The fish bowl work is a favorite. Plastic fish are placed in a fish bowl filled with water. Wearing an apron, the children use a metal strainer to scoop the fish out individually and transfer them to another bowl. The ocean sensory box is another popular work. Gel beads are placed in a tub with ocean mammals, shells, and seaweed. When doing this work, the children can create their own ocean scene or explore the sensorial feeling of the gel beads.

We have been talking about the emotions we feel. The children enjoy the book "My Many Colored Days," by Dr. Seuss. The book explains how on different days we go through different moods. What makes the book enjoyable is the music CD which accompanies it. Each colored day has a different style of classical music. The children have begun memorizing the music and can tell what color of a day it is. At this age, children may have a favorite book and want to hear it several times. Through repetition, the children learn to memorize the book which helps in preparing to read.

We have introduced new sensorial materials to the classroom. Sensorial materials evoke the senses. Children first

explore with their senses, which then educate the intellect. The senses teach the child about things he can touch (including the people in his environment) and relationships between them. The Sensorial Materials isolate one defining quality such as color, weight, shape, texture, size, sound, smell, etc. The children are learning how to grade the Pink Tower, Brown Stairs, and cylinders. Puzzles are still popular and the children enjoy the challenge of layered, free-form, jigsaw, and large floor puzzles.

It has been a wonderful year. We loved laughing and socializing with friends. We even debated endlessly over whose work it is, but by the end we really enjoyed working cooperatively (most of the time). We have enjoyed group activities, listening to books, and circle time. We've worked together to build towers and train tracks. We've hidden objects and searched high and low for their match. We have taken care of the guinea pigs with lots of love. We have enjoyed our time together this year and all the wonderful things we learned and experienced. Each toddler is not the same as they were when they first came to this classroom. Many toddlers hit milestones in their development. A few started talking during the school year, some became toilet-trained, and they all became independent in some areas of their lives. Almost all developed empathy for the classmates and helped each other when needed. Many of our toddlers will be moving up to the Primary classroom and have become little adults. We will miss them dearly! We wish everyone a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you soon!

PRIMARY 1



Gay Lyn Scarfo



Jeanene Lehman

It's hard to believe this is our last newsletter of 2012 / 2013 school year. We thank you for entrusting your child to us this year. We have enjoyed working with all of the children and have seen such growth, development and skill acquisition in the children. We have also witnessed how the children have grown in the way they deal with frustration and the care and concern they express for one another. We thank you for your support throughout the year. We feel a close partnership with our parents and send you our best wishes.

Please make note of the special events coming up.

May 13 Lydia's All About Me Week

May 17 Mother's Day Luncheon

May 20 Donuts with Dad Breakfast

May 20 Emmaline's All About Me Week

May 27 Griffin's All About Me Week

May 31 Last day of school we will have our traditional Field Day at the park. More info will be coming home.

Please sign up for a summer school session. We would love to see you!

While many of our children are returning, some are moving on. To everyone, regardless, we wish the best summer and the best in the years ahead. We sincerely hope your time at Peace Montessori School was happy and productive.

PRIMARY 2



Laura Hayden Julia Shlater Linda Vandemark



Kelly Whitehead Amy Becker

April showers bring May flowers and with those beautiful blooms come the end of a wonderful school year. It is hard to believe that this year is almost over. It seems like only yesterday that our brand new large class was full of young, eager and sometimes sad faces. Those same children enter the class as if they own the place and they do! They are all a year older and have another year of experience in a Montessori classroom. The children have all grown socially, emotionally, spiritually and academically. This has truly been an amazing year.

Upcoming events:

Friday, May 17 Mother's Day Luncheon

Friday, May 24 Doughnuts with Dad

Friday, May 31 Field Day at Kreager Park

We want to thank each of you for all of your support throughout the year. Thank you for driving, helping with projects, sending in items for show and tell and sharing your time and talents with us. We are truly a blessed team of teachers to have such wonderful parents. Thank you most of all for sharing your children with us. It has truly been an honor and we have learned so much from them.

Wishing you a safe and fun summer full of new memories.

ELEMENTARY



Carrie Kile Rachel Thompson Keri Wysong

It's so difficult to believe we are at the end of *another* school year – and it has been a wonderful year indeed!

looking out over a lovely pond, complete with weeping willow trees and a fountain?

In addition, the Lower Elementary students have had an opportunity to help Chad plant our school garden. If you have not had the chance to see our garden, it's just over the bridge in front of the pole barn – and it is quite extensive!

We have just welcomed three new students to our Upper Elementary; Joey Shrock, a 4th year, Thomas Kitch and Jack Little, both 7th years, have all recently joined our community. Please help us in extending a warm Peace Montessori welcome to them and their families.

It was lovely to see so many of our families at our Annual Fundraiser and Auction, The Art of Peace. The students' art was so impressive and we received so many beautiful donations from the Fort Wayne art community – all of which helped Peace raise over \$18,000 for our school! Thank you to each and every one of our families for your support.

The Upper and Lower Elementary students have enjoyed working outside! Lower Elementary has access to a lovely little yard and Upper Elementary students have the opportunity to enjoy the deck outside the library. Where else can you be working on your Algebra or vocabulary studies while

As we wrap up our school year, you may hear your student talking about "stops". These are goals your student sets, with the help of their teacher, for where they hope to be in their math, language and geometry subject areas. Sometimes, these goals require some extra work during their school day – other students choose to meet these goals by taking home homework for themselves. Either way, these are self-implemented and self-directed goals. So if your student should come home with homework, this is not punitive in any way – they WANTED homework!

Finally, as the school year draws to a close, We'd love to take the Upper Elementary students on one final field trip. Details will follow, but we will need drivers! If you can help out, please e-mail me at: elementary.peacemontessori@yahoo.com or call the school at: 260.493.3114.



May 2013

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MON

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Wed

THU

Fri

Sat

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 <i>Mother's Day Luncheon 12:00 (Primary class- rooms only)</i> <i>All school li- brary books due Back</i>	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 <i>Donuts with Dad 8:30 (Primary Class- rooms only)</i>	25
26	27 <i>No School Memorial Day</i>	28	29	30	31 <i>Last Day of School!</i>	