



# Montessori House for Children

## MARCH 2010



### Upcoming Events:

- **March 8th:** 8:30 am KVPAC sets up for 9:30 am performance "Boo Who Moo" A delightful story about a cow named Hilda who is down in the dumps because she can't sing. CD's available for purchase.
- **March 11th:** 8:30 am Parent Coffee
- **March 15th-19th:** Spring Break for half and ext. Open to Full day only
- **March 17th:** St. Patrick's Day!
- **March 25-28th:** AMS Boston Conference
- **March 25th:** 6pm Toddler Parent Ed. Presented by: Sherry Yingling Topic: The Difference between "Praise & Encouragement"
- **March 26th:** Early Release\* for Faculty mtgs. Half and Ext. day release at 11:30 am Tods, EC at noon
- **April 2nd:** School Closed/ Holiday

\* (Faculty meetings monthly)

A special thanks to these parents for their contributions of time and energy in preparing for February events: Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras, Chinese New Years. Liu Zhe (Anna Wang's mom), He Zhengting & Ling Wu (Ray He's parents), Jingke Chen & Donghon Wang (Max Chen's parents) were some parents that shared a delightful presentation on Chinese New Year's. Many wonderful parents also helped the children make Mardi Gras masks for our parade around the school. Maria (Camila's mom) brought beads for the children to wear during the parade. We'd also like to continue thanking the parents that come listen to our emerging readers. What an incredible group of families we have here at our school!



Montessori child comments: An EC student told his mom when he was eating a bowl of Lucky Charms at home for breakfast...

"Look mom! There is a magnet in my cereal!!" (after spotting a horse shoe)

Comment from toddler child upon seeing daddy's shoes on the floor. "These shoes don't belong here!!" So the child contentedly placed the shoes in Daddy's closet.

Ms. Romesha got a phone call from her student Bhargav in India!

### Gardening Committee News...

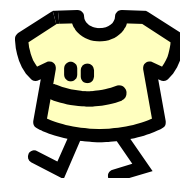
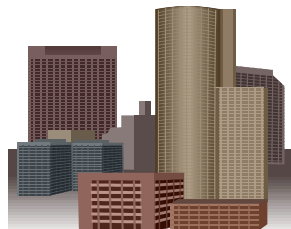
We held a meeting at the school on Wednesday and are planting some great ideas for our school gardens! Worm Composting trays are coming in March and we will have other exciting new outdoor treats in store!

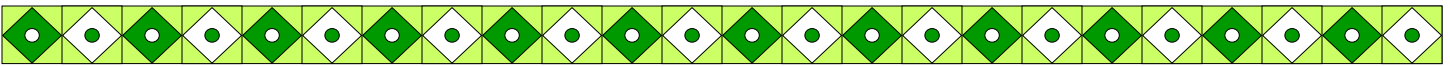
**Fundraising Committee** met this Saturday, 2/27 at 10 am to go over upcoming events. Lots of great ideas have come from this meeting as well!

**T-Shirt Sales:** Our goal is to sell 130 shirts. As of today, we have sold 75. Way to go! Our funds go toward Teacher Conferences and the next one is the American Montessori Society (AMS) conference in Boston!

Adult and Child sizes available! 1 for \$25 and 2 for \$40. You may place your check payable to MHFC in the tuition box attached to your order form or hand written note with sizes and quantity.

Thank you for your help!





Montessori moment: "There is nothing in the intellect which was not first in some way in the senses"

## Early Childhood News...

EC celebrated Chinese New Years in February. The following families gave wonderful presentations on Chinese New Year's to the EC classes: Max Chen's parents (EC I), Ray He's parents (EC II) and in EC III Anna Wang's mom gave a presentation. In February, we also discussed playground rules, table manners and the nutrition pyramid. Some of the EC children learned how to read the date, time, their age and birthday. We would like to welcome the following children to our classrooms; Arnav, Julia, Abigail, John, Elaine, Zelma, Ciona and Samav. We celebrated Mardi Gras on Fat Tuesday with our very own Mardi Gras parade. Thanks to our parent helpers and Ms. Annabell, the children made their own masks to wear and parade around the school. Camila and Elisa's mom brought colorful Mardi Gras beads for all the children to wear.

During the month of March EC will be discussing the virtue of Perseverance. We will be planting seeds and learning the life cycle of a plant. With March also comes the discussion of Spring and the history behind St. Patrick's Day! Have a safe and fun spring break!

## Toddler News...

In February, Toddlers will talk about Texas songs, animals and the Texas flag. The toddlers also talked about hearts, love and friendship. We practiced helping our friends and checking on them by saying, "Are you okay?" During food prep, we made nachos and enjoyed avocados. The toddlers would like to give best wishes to Sanjay and Julia who moved on to the Early Childhood and Juan Diego who is leaving soon for Colombia. The toddlers welcome Evan, Talvin, Sophia, Sameeha, Ceona, Aimee and Ethan to the classrooms. We would like to bid farewell to Ms. Judi who is leaving to work in the administrative side of Montessori. We also welcome Ms. Bereniz to Toddler I in her place.

Please come inside to the lobby at least once a week to check your family folder for any notes that come from the office or birthday invitations. These are located by the book-



Brandie Trigger, our school resource for nutrition, is also a registered massage therapist who just finished an infant massage course at Texas Children's. She would like to offer a once-a-week massage program for moms and infants 0-6 months of age. The course would be a 4 week course, held here at the school. If you are someone you know is interested, please e-mail [pam@montessorihouseforchildren.com](mailto:pam@montessorihouseforchildren.com) or submit a note in the Parent Ask-It Basket on our website. The name of the course is "Peaceful Touch"

The "Peaceful Touch" flyer is on page 4 of the newsletter.



**CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT IS POSSIBLE** when like reading – the ability to draw becomes second nature? It can be done! Young Rembrandts provides children with the fundamental skills (*and confidence*) they need to master the creative process; from drawing to complex problem solving. How do we do it?

In each week's new lesson, we use a proven (20+ year!) step-by-step method to teach and apply technical skills - then combine problem solving, innovation, and imagination to create eye-popping masterpieces.

All classes are taught by Young Rembrandt certified instructors and all quality art supplies are included.

Young Rembrandts classes are now being offered at Montessori House for Children on Thursdays @ 2:45 pm. Please see the flyers in the front foyer for registration forms.

Soundtracks will be available to purchase of next Monday's performance of Boo-Hoo Moo. Soundtrack includes all of the memorable songs from Hilda Mae Heifer's musical adventure down on the farm. CC includes versions with lyrics and a karaoke edition so children can sing along. CDs will be delivered to the school on the day of the performance. To order, please complete an order form in the lobby and return it to the school with your child's teacher's name on it. Payment can be made by check or credit card. The performance will begin promptly at 9:30 am next Monday, March 8th. (checks payable to KVPAC)

**Parent Ed. Corner...** This month's parent ed. Was an informal discussion group meeting with Brandie Trigger (Nutritionist and RMT). It was very informative as well as enjoyable. Brandie is a regular contributor to our school nutrition resources and she welcomes any questions parents have regarding eating issues, correlations between diet and behavior etc. You can submit your questions in the Parent Ask-It Basket on our web-site. Our next topic is on learning the differences between "Praise" and "Encouragement"



A big thank you goes out to those parents that volunteer to take our paper, plastic and E-waste materials to a recycle center. This also enables our school to continue recycling despite not having the Abitibi



**Happy Birthday to these MHFC children born in March!**

- Ayan 3/3
- Allison 3/29
- Ana 3/16
- Elizaveta 3/18
- Jacob 3/1
- Avery 3/7
- Lilly 3/20
- Amarie 3/4
- Sofia 3/26

**Staff Birthdays!!**

- Ms. Alia 3/30
- Ms. Juana 3/26

More Thank you's- Thank you Christie for donating the magnetic work to the toddler classroom and the number and peg work to the EG class, the children are really enjoying them!



### ***What is Peaceful Touch?***

Peaceful Touch is a healthy touch approach for children ages three through eight. The Peaceful Touch trainings deepen the understanding and practice of what we innately know about touch but often forget.

For parents, Peaceful Touch offers a hands-on workshop, two hours long, in the fundamentals of touch including the simple 5 to 10 minute practice that was the subject of extensive research in Sweden. Findings: Peaceful Touch significantly lessens aggression in children four and five years old.

For teachers, Peaceful Touch offers longer hands-on workshops that expand the parent workshop curriculum and include how best to integrate healthy touch into classroom activities, from games and story-telling to reading, math, and science.

### **The Peaceful Touch program is based on three fundamentals:**

- That touch is necessary for human growth and development
- That the calming hormone, oxytocin, is activated through touch
- That a permission dialogue between giver and receiver supports healthy touch and helps establish good boundaries

### **The main goals of the Peaceful Touch initiative are:**

- To promote awareness of the benefits of healthy touch for children in groups and as individuals
- To promote awareness of the value of touch in relation to learning, socialization and non-violence
- To train adults in applications of healthy touch for children through an experiential workshop

In Sweden, where more than 300,000 children receive Peaceful Touch on a regular basis, both teachers and parents report lower levels of anxiety and aggression, and improved group functioning. Recent research confirms that 5 to 10 minutes of Peaceful Touch significantly lessens aggression in children four and five years old.

**For more information:** [www.peacefultouch.net](http://www.peacefultouch.net)

**Also:** Thomas Van Demark

Peaceful Touch, USA Coordinator (510)436-4545 [info@peacefultouch.net](mailto:info@peacefultouch.net) Feb

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