

Dates To Remember in March:

Thursday, 3/13:

- Parent "Working" Coffee 8:30am
- Class (group) Spring Pictures
- Parent Education—6-8 pm—
(Through The Eyes of The Child)
Presentation of EC materials

Friday, 3/14: EC & Trans Spring Party

3/17-3/21: Montessori Holiday for Half & Extended-Day children-No School for Spring Break

Friday, 3/21: SCHOOL CLOSED-Easter Holiday

Monday, 3/24: Montessori Holiday-Staff Development. No school for half & extended-day children.

3/25-4/25:

EC III Observation Month—Please contact Ms. Sethna to schedule a time to observe your child at work.

Dates To Remember in April:

Wednesday, 4/16:

EC In-House Field Trip—In-House Theatrical Production presented by KVPAC—Don't Eat The Bluebonnets

Thursday, April 10:

Parent Round Table
(Montessori In The Home)

Thursday, April 24th-6:30-7:30pm: EC I & II "Watch Me Work"

Friday, 4/25:

Early Release—12:00 NOON Dismissal for all Half & Extended-Day children

Monday, 4/28:

SCHOOL CLOSED—Parent/Teacher Conferences

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New Parent Wine & Cheese "Round Table" Nights

This March we will start a series of Wine & Cheese "Round Table" Parent Education discussions. These parent education nights marked as "Round Table" discussion will be an informal and relaxing way to have fun learning about Montessori OR other hot parent ed topics that you request! Aside from having a relaxing wine & cheese (and other beverages) evening, you will have an opportunity for discussion after the topic is introduced. Our families always enjoy the opportunity to share questions, experiences, successes or failures with regard to certain important topics we feel are important in our child's development. We hope these "Round Table" discussions will be a fun and relaxing way to learn about ourselves and our children, while getting to know others in the school.

We look forward to our first roundtable and hope to see you there. Please feel free to drop a Round Table Parent Ed discussion topic at the front desk or in the tuition box. Let's have fun learning about ourselves and our children!

SUNRISE Ladies provide Sunshine to MHFC

Did you know that every Tuesday we are visited by a group of lively and fun-loving seniors from Sunrise Cinco Ranch Senior Living Community? These ladies read to our classes and provide individual listening time to our children who are reading. It is a pleasure to have them as part of our life. Judging from the faces of the ladies, the joy is mutual.



SURPLUS NIDO FURNISHINGS

Here are a few things we don't need any more. Young moms and new moms—take a look! All proceeds go back into the new toddler room!

- Twin jogging stroller—\$100
- Futon floor mattresses—\$25 each
- Large tumbling mats—\$50 each
- Floor mirror—\$25

Montessori House For Children

March 2008 Newsletter



MARCH NEWS

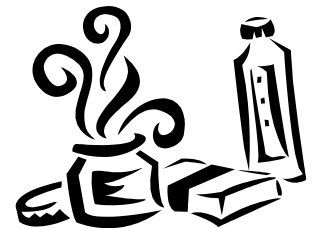
MHFC Goes Green to Clean

Our former NIDO families probably know that we have **natural ingredients** on the surfaces and floors ever since we opened the school. This was essential in our opinion because the infants were so close to the floors and it would not be good to smell the residual odors left by typical commercial cleaners.

We have decided to take this practice to the rest of the school. Our cleaning agents (see list below) **are alternatives to commercial cleaners and use natural ingredients ranging from vinegar to specific essential oils.** Our goal is use **effective natural alternatives to keep the child's environment clean and healthy...naturally.** We will start this change the first week of March, to give us time to switch out all our products. Look to our website in March if you are interested in making your own green cleaning recipes!

The ingredients we use will be combinations of these listed below. Please let us know if your child has any sensitivity to the essential oils listed below which would be used sparingly for their aroma or anti-bacterial/fungal/viral attributes. The list of ingredients that will be used are a combination of the following ingredients:

- Essential oils (peppermint, lavender, eucalyptus, lemon, sweet orange and grapefruit)
- Vinegar
- Castile Soap
- Olive Oil
- Washing Soda & Baking Soda



Montessori House begins SACS accreditation process

Montessori House for Children has been approved by the **South-ern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)** to begin its accreditation process. This is a 2 to 3 year journey that involves meeting the standards for quality schools that are defined and monitored by the Council on Accreditation and School Improvement. All areas of the institution are examined, including corporate structure, financial adequacy, educational services, quality of teachers and support staff, admission policies, student attendance and conduct, communications and school improvement. There is a detailed checklist for setting and meeting

goals in the areas of curriculum, teaching strategies, literacy, emotional and cognitive development. The standards listed by this agency fit Montessori practices like a glove and we feel our association with SACS, along with our affiliation with AMS, will result in many benefits for our children.

An **Advisory Board** will be formed to help us stay on the course of continual improvement while keeping true to our Montessori philosophy. This Board will include representatives from the teaching staff, parents, school officers, and Montessorians from outside the school. The Board should have 7-10 members and will

meet approximately every 6 weeks starting in the summer. Members will be asked to bring ideas for improvements to the school program, and to continually evaluate the practices and policies of the school as they relate to and support the Montessori model for a quality school. Each term is 1 year, with option to renew for next academic year.

If you would like to nominate yourself or another person to be considered as Board members, please send e-mail to:

barb@montessorihouseforchildren.com

Thank you in advance for taking this journey with us !