

IMPORTANT DATES:

August 23

UE Student Orientation
10-11:30am

*all new students to MSBG and
all 4th year students

August 23

Upper Elementary 4th year Parent
Meeting

11:30-12:00

*for all parents of 4th year
students

August 24

First Day of School

8:30am classroom doors open

8:40am sharp! Class begins

See you then!

SAFETY PATROL schedule to
be sent home at a later date for
our 5th and 6th grade students.

CAMP is scheduled for
November 3-5. There is an
additional cost for camp and
school fundraisers have been put
in place. More information will
be available soon!

CONTACT US at any time
about questions, concerns,
clarifications, or any information
you feel we should know.
(419) 352-4203 between the
hours of 7:45am-4:00pm
upper@montessorischoolbg.com

HOMEWORK

We have a clear and organized
process of homework. Our
purpose in giving home work is
the reinforce areas of the
curriculum that we feel are
important but do not require the
concrete Montessori materials to
complete. More detailed
information about homework will
be sent home when homework
begins the second week of
school.

It's already time to begin preparations for the school year! We are eager to begin the 2010-11 school year and are excited to build our classroom community.

UPPER ELEMENTARY AT A GLANCE

In the Upper Elementary classroom, we continue to prepare our students to be Citizens of the World. They learn to apply the foundational language and mathematical skills they have learned both as independent thinkers as well as effective collaborative group members.

Students are assessed independently on their mathematical skills and are guided through an individualized mathematics program. Concrete materials are used to introduce all mathematical concepts and gradually students work towards abstract thought. Critical thinking and problem solving skills are key attributes of the program.

Students continue to gain an awareness and appreciation of the natural world and cultural studies, as well as their civic virtue. Students are presented with lessons that open the wonder of the universe to the child. Their cultural studies center around the "Needs of Humans" work in which they study people of different cultures without judgment as they already understand that humans have different ways to express and fulfill their needs while possessing the same fundamental needs. The integrated curriculum, history simulations, and the inquiry-based science allow an environment for students to become truly excited about learning.

The 9-12 year old students acquire an understanding of the natural world by attending an Outdoor Education Camp each year in which classes involving environmental studies, pollution, and animal and plant wildlife are studied.

All students demonstrate their civic virtue by their involvement in causes such as raising money for Breast Cancer research and clothing drives. Students also appropriately recycle, handle the U.S. Flag, and perform jobs in the classroom and around the school.

CLASSROOM PET INFORMATION

In school classrooms, animals are effective and valuable teacher aides. In our classroom, we have Fiddler Crabs and a pet reptile. Our reptile is in an enclosed cage and is not allowed to roam free. Reptiles may carry Salmonella. To reduce the risk of Salmonella the students do not have direct contact with the reptile. They do, however, have contact with the reptile food products and the environment when caring for the pet. Please be informed that when the students take care of the pet they perform the task while supervised by an adult. After contact with the food products and environment, children wash their hands thoroughly. Our reptile has been inspected by a veterinarian and is in good health at this time. If you have any concerns regarding our pets, please consult us.

PRATICAL LIFE: PREPARING FOOD IN THE CLASSROOM

In the Upper Elementary classroom, our students prepare food that everyone enjoys. This is a great community-building activity as well as an opportunity to strengthen practical life skills related to cooking and preparing food. More complete information will follow.

TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

We have many computers available to our students. We use the computer to write stories and papers. We utilize the internet as a research tool, and we use databases and graphs for science. Skilled students will learn to create a PowerPoint presentation. We ask that parents provide each child with a USB mass storage device for use in the classroom. This would allow students to save their work and move freely from one computer to another..

GOING OUT RESEARCH

Each year Upper Elementary students have the exciting opportunity to participate in "going out research." Many Montessori schools send their students out into the "real world" to learn about topics that interest the child. Maria Montessori felt strongly that this was one of the best ways for the 9-12 year old student to learn. If you interested in the "going out research" project, please ask your teacher for an information packet.

