

The Montessori Lexis

November 6, 2009 The Montessori School of Bowling 515 Sandridge Road Bowling Green Ohio 419-352-4203



Fall is in the air!

HARVEST PARTY

November 13, 2009

6:30 – 8:00 pm

Here at the School

All ages invited!

Calendar of Events

Cross Country November 8, 2009
Banquet

Harvest Party November 13, 2009
6:30 – 8:00 pm

Miss Jennie at the Library
“Music and the Picture Book”
2:00 pm November 14, 2009

Montessori Talk at the Library
3:00 pm November 14, 2009

Ohio Grade Level November 21, 2009
Chess Tournaments at Owens Comm. Col.

Holiday Parade November 21, 2009
More details to follow

No School November 25-28, 2009
Happy Thanksgiving!

Special Teachers Continued...

Miss Teresa – Band and Music

Where are you from originally?

I lived in Sylvania, Ohio until I was eight. At that time, we moved to Riga, Michigan (near Blissfield) to live on the farm that belonged to my father's family.

What degrees do you hold?

I have a bachelor's in music education and a master's in music performance.

What led you to choose your degree field?

Believe it or not, by fifth grade I knew I wanted to be a teacher. I wasn't sure if I would teach English or music. I had taken piano lessons since third grade and then, once I started band, I decided that music was the path for me.

What other related experience do you bring to Montessori?

As a musician, I have had the opportunity to perform many styles of music in many venues. Performing jazz in Hungry, flute solos for weddings, rock music at county fairs and woodwind instruments in musical pits all have one thing in common: these experiences have allowed me to communicate with people and touch their lives on a deep and emotional level. Such performances coupled with over 20 years of teaching help me pass on this valuable form of communication in an effective and passionate manner to young musicians.

What brought you to Montessori?

A couple of my friends let me know that there would be an opening in the music program at Montessori and I was quite interested. I knew about the music program as I had enjoyed watching a couple of past concerts coordinated by Dr. Gromko and realized I would like to be a part of this program. When I had the opportunity to interview at the school I was quite taken by the openness and welcoming environment the school offers. This inviting atmosphere comes from all members of the Montessori community; staff, students and parents alike, and creates a truly joyous place to work and learn.

What is your favorite thing about Montessori!

I love the close community. I know that parents and teachers are all 100% dedicated to drawing forth every bit of potential that students have to offer. Having the small class size allows me to get to know my students as individuals, and that is very rewarding!



Parent Advocate – Anne Nevin Saviers – Past Parent

I had heard of the Montessori method and knew a little about it but in all honesty, that was not the main reason her father and I decided to enroll Katie there. Initially, we sent her to Montessori pre-school because of the after-school program---it was in an air-conditioned building. (Can you tell I am the parent of a Millennium child??)

It did not take long, however, for me to be impressed by the Montessori "way" of educating children. Katie learned self-discipline, how to work on her own AND with a partner, how to ask questions, how to share information and ideas---in general, she learned how to learn. She *enjoyed* learning and despite the fact that she cried every single morning when I left (all the way through second grade), she loved going to school there.

At times, I used to worry that she might have difficulty adjusting to a "typical" classroom setting but my worry was all for naught. She transitioned seamlessly and went on to continue to do well in junior high and high school. She was a responsible student and did not need to be "nagged" to do her assignments. (Okay, maybe I had to nag once) Some students may need more structure than others, but I think many students would benefit from the opportunity to learn by exploring, with some guidance and direction, things that interest them.

Katie is now a sophomore at Hamilton College in Clinton, New York. Her years at Montessori enabled her to do well in high school and she is at Hamilton on scholarship. She was on the Dean's list last spring, received an academic award from the Chinese department (she has declared Chinese as her major), was selected as an RA for this academic year, and also works part-time in the Registrar's Office. Best of all, she still has the kind heart and caring spirit that she had all the while she was at Montessori of Bowling Green. She continues to make her dad and I proud.

Montessori was a very good choice for Katie. Both her dad and I are glad we made that decision and we are grateful that we could afford to send her there. Investing in her early education has definitely paid off!

Holiday Parade – November 21, 2009

As keeping with Montessori tradition, we will once again walk in the Bowling Green Holiday Parade. Details about where to meet are still in the works but in preparation, we are collecting individually wrapped candies to be "tossed" into the crowd of onlookers. This is a good time to pick up candy on sale and to go through your child's Halloween candy and weed out some of it!

Also, part of the candy collected will be sent to our troops overseas.

There is a collection basket in the foyer. Thank you.



Early Childhood

East – Room 208

The leaves are changing colors and are beginning to fall off the trees, but we cannot believe it is already November! The classroom is busy with many fall activities. Our classroom continues to become a strong community.

It was so enjoyable meeting with all of our parents for conferences. It gives us an opportunity to answer questions, explain activities and share with you all the wonderful advancements your children are making. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to meet with us. Also, thank you for the delicious food provided for our dinner.

Many Halloween activities were enjoyed by the children these past few weeks. We are sure the children shared with you their marble-painted spider webs, their stenciled jack-o-lanterns, told you about hammering golf tees into real pumpkins and also how they created a face on a pumpkin with markers. These types of activities help the children develop their fine and gross motor skills.

The children truly enjoyed our first holiday party of the school year. We want to thank all of the families that contributed snacks, napkins, treat bags and treat bag items for our Harvest Party. All of your help was greatly appreciated. We are trying very, very hard to keep germs from spreading in our classroom. Hand-washing is being done a lot. So, our paper towel supply is beginning to run low. We would really appreciate additional rolls of paper towels for classroom use.

~In Peace – Miss Cindy and Miss Carrie



West – Room 206

We are feeling a strong sense of classroom community. The blur of the two classrooms seems to be fading. Our peace table is always busy. The children, throughout the day, are inviting another child to the peace table to work out their conflicts, independently, should any arise. It is encouraging to watch them settle their differences peacefully, which is a skill they will carry with them throughout their lives.

We are looking forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with a classroom feast. Our oldest children will be our hosts as the pilgrims and our younger children will be guests as the Native Americans. The pilgrims will be preparing a feast of turkey hotdogs, corn, ect. We will be asking for donations of ingredients at a later date. All West room children are invited to participate at lunch time. Morning children may stay later on Tuesday, November 24 and afternoon children may arrive earlier. --Miss Emily and Miss Brenda

Upper Elementary

October 24th was "Make a Difference Saturday." The students in the upper elementary classroom were challenged to think of ways that they could volunteer to make a difference in their communities and neighborhoods. They came up with many creative ideas. Some of their ideas were to donate food, blankets or towels to the local humane society, donate food to the food pantry, and rake leaves or do errands for their neighbors.

The class decided to collect clothing for The Deacon's Shop at 126 South Church Street. The Deacon's Shop is open on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00 am and provides free seasonal clothing for its patrons. A wide variety of items were donated including baby clothes and blankets, books, shirts, pants, skirts, socks, new underwear, sweatshirts, winter coats and hats, a baby basinet, and one Halloween costume. When the final inventory was taken the children had donated close to one hundred thirty items! Congratulations to all our students and parents who participated in "Make a Difference Saturday."

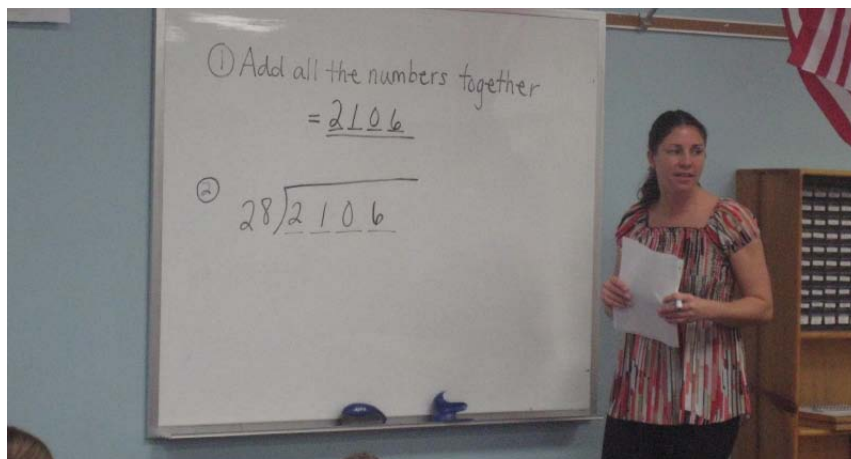
Viscosity, cohesion, emulsion, capillary action and chromatography are some of the vocabulary terms the students have been learning in their science unit on matter. Friday afternoon the students were "mad scientists!" As teachers, we observed collaborating and making predictions on experiments as they explored the properties of solids, liquids and gases. This unit will conclude in a Chemistry Fair right before the winter break.

Mean, Median and Mode are some math vocabulary terms that the students explored on Friday. We asked them to add the scores from Thursday morning's spelling tests. We then divided the sum to find the average score for the class. The students were surprised at the score. Ask them what the percentage turned out to be. They were shown and challenged to find the median and the mode of the spelling scores. We are hoping the class average will continue to rise.

Our history unit on Ancient American Civilizations cumulated in oral reports presented this week. The students had to assess themselves on content, preparedness, posture and eye contact, and volume using a four point rubric. The students learned a vast amount of information about Mayans, Incas, Mound Builders and Aztecs. We look forward to our next unit on North American Native Americans. This will coincide nicely with our Thanksgiving dinner.

We would like to thank the families of Aubrey, Robert and Amanda, Jared, Claire, Elana and Lydia. They provided a wonderful snack buffet for teachers and students to enjoy. We had a festive October 30th.

~Deb/Megan/Liz



Lower Elementary

Our class has enjoyed the first four Great Lessons so far this year. Our students are learning about how the Earth formed, how plants and animals appeared, ancient man, and how writing began. We love hearing all of the students' questions after each presentation. Next week we will finish our Great Lessons with the study of numbers.

Each week we are highlighting a different manner or social skill. So far we have covered understanding conflict, citizenship, uncouth behavior, compassion, communication, feelings, and please and thank you. We have started small classroom reading groups on Tuesday afternoons.

Areas of Study:

Language- Compound words, dictionary, short vowels, grammar boxes, and verb tenses.

Math- Measurement, position of lines, exchanges, long chains, multiplication tables, and bead bars.

Culture- Tundra Biome/Arctic region, pumpkins, leaf study, fall season, fish research, and maps.

Important Dates:

Each year the Lower Elementary students share a Thanksgiving meal. We typically serve turkey hot dogs, fresh vegetables, and a sweet treat. Look for more information to come home soon.

Supply Needs:

We would appreciate any paper towels you could send in. Our classroom uses approximately 2 rolls per day. We are encouraging students to wash and dry their hands regularly.

Thank you for your support. Lower Elementary Staff



The seven bead chain: Another way to teach multiples of seven.

Please visit our website at
www.montessorischoolbg.com

The website features...

- The Latest MSBG News
- Weekly Calendar Events
- Forms
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