

The Montessori Lexis

November 30, 2009 The Montessori School of Bowling 515 Sandridge Road Bowling Green Ohio 419-352-

Maria Montessori was the first female physician in Italy at the turn of the 20th century. After she had developed her method of teaching in Italy, she spent the rest of her life traveling to different countries, lecturing and teaching her methodology. She learned from each culture and was able to celebrate the differences as well as find the commonalities in all people.

At the Montessori School of BG we educate our children about the differences in each child while seeing that we are all the same on the inside. We model respect and tolerance. We welcome different holiday celebrations as a way of teaching respect and unity for other cultures and peoples. Dr. Montessori died in 1952 but continues to remind us to live peacefully. It is written on her tombstone, "I beg the dear all-powerful children to unite with me for the building of peace in Man and the World."

We want to give each family the opportunity to teach their child's class about any special celebrations they observe. Please see your child's teacher if you would like to come and share.

Calendar of Events

There will be no school November 25-27 (Wednesday-Friday) Happy Thanksgiving!

Music Program December 4, 2009

Early Childhood and Lower Elementary 10:30 am

Upper Elementary 12:30 pm

Parents and Family Members are encouraged to attend!

Congratulations are in order for the members of MSBG's chess team. On Saturday, at the State of Ohio Grade Level Championship, our students excelled! 4th grade team members placed 3rd in the state; 5th grade team members placed 4th in the state and our 6th grade team members placed an astounding 1st! We commend them on their hard work and excellent playing!

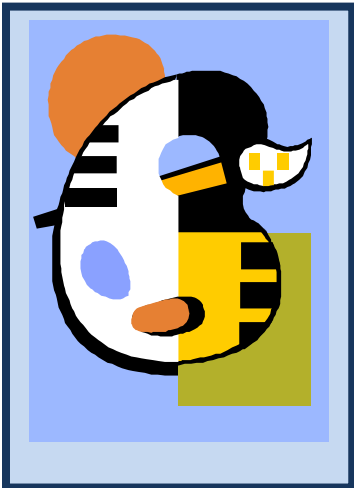
Specials Teachers Continued... “In your area of expertise, what is the Montessori School of BG doing that is unique to us and not traditional school?”

Miss Tara – German Traditional schools do not have a foreign language program at these age levels. Montessori utilizes small group foreign language instruction, and many teachers reinforce the use of foreign language in their classroom.

*A special thank you goes out to Moheeb Alwarsh for contacting the German Embassy. We now have some really neat reference material. Danke sehr!!



*Thank you to the wonderful PTO for allotting funds for the purchase of German picture books, audio-books, and Grimm’s Fairy Tales. Vielen Dank!!



Miss Amanda – Art In my classroom I am able to set up areas that correlate with classroom curriculum as well as my own. I set up the art shelves in the same manner as it is done in their regular classroom. I have also designed the Montessori curriculum in the three year rotation (except kindergarten) so that each child covers the art areas two times before they are in middle school. I could never do this in a traditional school setting. I also would never be able to work so closely with the classroom teachers and what's going on in their rooms.

MSBG Families:

We would like to thank everyone involved in the Fall Harvest Party on November 13th. We had a wonderful turnout and appreciate everyone that attended. The huge turnout made it a very special night for our children. We had a large donation of canned goods which were contributed to the BG Christian Food Pantry. They were very appreciative of everyone's generosity. A very special thank you must go out to the Fall Harvest Party committee for organizing the evening. They include:

Lori Coon
Nora Engebretsen
Vicky Adler

Amy Schetter
Chris Shepherd
Alisa Suelzer

Also thanks go to Miss Antonia for setting up the fun obstacle course for the children and parents. It was definitely a big hit! There were also many volunteers that contributed their time that evening to help out with the food, the crafts and the games. Thank you to everyone for such a fun and successful evening!!!

With Gratitude, MSBG Teachers and Staff



Early Childhood

As the end of November approaches your child is seeing many commercial ads, reading stories, and making crafts for the ever so popular Turkey Day! It is very easy to get caught up in all the excitement and forget the importance of Thanksgiving when delicious food and funny cartoon turkeys surround us. This year we hope that our young children are able to see and experience the holiday for what it is truly meant to be, a time of giving thanks and being thankful.

In order to convey the meaning of Thanksgiving, we are planning on making our very own "Stone Soup." Please note that every child will be responsible for contributing one food item to the crock pot. The crock pot will begin empty and then turn into delicious soup with the help of every member of our community. As your child contributes his or her item to the crock pot they will become more aware of their importance to our community and experience the joy that comes with giving. We plan to eat the soup together as a community and then enjoy a slice of delicious pumpkins pie! Morning and afternoon students will all have the opportunity to make and eat the stone soup and pie. We will be reading stories of the first Thanksgiving meal, learning to set the table, and building a beautiful cornucopia.

We thank you for contributing to our stone soup activity and would like to wish you a warm and delicious Thanksgiving holiday!

In Peace, Early Childhood Teachers



Holiday Parade Huge Success!

Thank you parents and children for all the candy we collected to give out at the parade and also for everyone who walked and rode on the float. Thank you also to the Baumgardner family for letting us use their trailer.

Thank you to Carter Lumber and Wulff Homes for donating the wood and materials to build the giant pink tower! Also thank you to Ryan Smith and Thor Sigurdson for their time in constructing it.

Thank you to the many teachers and parents who helped decorate the float and coordinate.

And a special thank you to the teachers for building a train that was decorated by stockings created by the children.

Upper Elementary

Dear Parents,

In the upper elementary classroom, the students plan and prepare a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. Some of the skills used in the preparation of this meal are estimating, rounding, fractions, conversions, and the practical life skills of cooking, cleaning, setting the table, and grace and courtesy.

To prepare for the feast, our 6th year students are in charge of the grocery list and the shopping. They also prepare and cook the turkey. Our 5th year students make stuffing and prepare the vegetables. The 4th year students make pumpkin cookies for dessert. Each student peels a potato for the mashed potatoes. We push all of our tables together and eat family style. The students then tell us what they are thankful for. Do you have a holiday tradition that you would like to share with our class? We are looking for families who are willing to share their family traditions either in our classroom or for a whole school assembly.

This week we wrote stories and poems about Thanksgiving. Here is a poem that Kale Nichols wrote.

Thanksgiving

We all go to grandma's house

In Cincinnati

Once we get there

It's all so chatty.

Little people play with little people

Big people do not.

Instead they turn on the TV

And then start the pot.

It gets kind of boring

For me.

Until they bring out

The turkey!



The Upper Elementary Class traveled to Grand Rapids to visit the Seven Eagles Lodge. While in the “long house” Spencer wore a bear hide coat while “Lightfoot” spoke about Native American history. The children also played some games and watched as people threw tomahawks!

Lower Elementary

The lower elementary students are learning about several holiday celebrations. We started with Thanksgiving and learned about the Native Americans and Pilgrims. We are learning about Native American houses, their picture language, some famous Native Americans, the Mayflower, and a Pilgrim child’s day. We made special holiday placemats to use for our classroom Thanksgiving dinner. On Tuesday, November 24, 2009, we will share a meal prepared by all our students.

During our last week of school before our winter break we will focus on the winter holidays. We will have a special day devoted to studying each holiday. Hanukkah is the Jewish celebration that lasts for eight days in either November or December. It is also called the Festival of the Lights. People eat special foods, play games and tell stories and give gifts.

The African inspired holiday Kwanzaa celebrates seven principles from December 26 through January 1. Families, ancestors, and children giving thanks for all of life’s wonderful gifts are part of the seven days of celebration. Ceremonies, gift giving and music are all part of Kwanzaa.

Las Posadas celebrates the Spanish tradition of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter in Bethlehem. Candles are lit and travelers sing traditional Spanish songs as they process along the way to the plaza. Las Posadas begins on December 16 and lasts for nine nights.

We will also celebrate the traditional Christmas holiday. We will read aloud the Charles Dickens classic A Christmas Carol and compare it to a video production.

Please visit our website at
www.montessorischoolbg.com

The website features...

- The Latest MSBG News
- Weekly Calendar Events
- Forms
- Photo Gallery
- Montessori Education Video
- Lexis Newsletter and Archives
- And More!