

Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy

News & Views

January 2018

A Better School of Thought



“Development is a series of rebirths.”

~Dr. Maria Montessori

Important Dates

January 8: Classes Resume

January 8: New Hot Lunch Cycle Begins

January 12: Re-Enrollment Packets To Be Sent Home

January 12: Re-Enrollment Begins Through January 26

January 15: NO SCHOOL, Professional Development Day

January 19: Kindergarten Music Concert 2:00PM

January 19: Fourth Grade Field Trip to Play

January 19: School Dance

January 19: End of Second Quarter

January 26: Re-Enrollment Period Ends

January 19: End of Second Quarter

January 20: Popcorn Day

January 24: Fifth Grade Band Concert (Re-Scheduled From December) 5:30PM

January 26: Jazzistry Presentation

February 2nd: International Month Assembly



Director's News

Dear Parents and Friends:

Happy New Year to all of our Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy families and hoping that 2018 will bring you and yours good health, happiness, laughter, and positive growth! I trust your winter break was relaxing and that you were able to participate in some memorable activities with family and friends; storing many moments that will be cherished for years to come.

I would like to welcome our new students and families to Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy. In the days and months ahead I am confident that you will be proud to be part of an outstanding and supportive learning community and happy with your choice to join Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy.

School will resume on Monday, January 8, 2018. Please remember to be mindful of re-establishing the necessary routines to ensure that your students are in attendance and on-time each morning. As shareholders in your child's education we want to make sure that each school day begins with a great start! In order to provide your children with a positive start to the day and a smooth transition towards a rewarding day of learning, plan your mornings accordingly: Elementary aged children (Kindergarten through Fifth Grade) to arrive at school by 8:00am; AM Preschool children should arrive at school by 8:30am; and PM Preschool begins promptly at 12:30pm.

In addition to morning routines, please continue to be attentive of early dismissal habits. Although, there are times when an occasional early dismissal is necessary for an appointment or urgent family need, early dismissals should be minimal as this loss of instructional time can certainly affect a student's performance. As always, we appreciate your support as our teachers and students strive to maximize their instructional time shared each day.

To all of our families, thank you for supporting our students and teachers as we look forward to an outstanding second semester here at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy.

Sincerely,

Ms. Genie P'sachoulias

Re-Enrollment.....Don't Be Left Out In The Cold

Re-Enrollment begins (January 12 – January 26) for all of our students presently enrolled at Mt. Clemens Montessori; Kindergarten through Fourth Grade. It is very important that all of the re-enrollment forms are completed and returned to the Academy by January 26. During this two week re-enrollment period, current students and all of their siblings that will be turning five by September 1st and older siblings are eligible to register for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year. Look for the Enrollment packets to come home on January 12.

It is necessary for you to have completed all forms to secure your child's placement, even though they are already enrolled and an attending student at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy this current school year. Should the application not be submitted on time, it will then be placed with all "Open Enrollment" applications.

Open Enrollment is designed for those students not presently attending MTCMA. The dates for open enrollment will be held from February 5, 2018 – February 20, 2018. All applications will be considered on first come basis unless our classroom limits have been reached. At the closure of Open Enrollment it may be necessary to have a lottery for open seats. If you have family or friends interested in attending MTCMA next year, please encourage them to register during the *Open Enrollment* period to ensure that their child's position is secured for the 2018-2019 school year.

A waiting list of perspective students was in place at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year for many of our classrooms. Unfortunately, there were many children who were placed on our "Wait List"; unable to attend MTCMA and the wonderful programs offered. We want to ensure that you and your child remain part of our *family*.

Open House



As part of our Open Enrollment process, Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy will be hosting an **Open House** on Saturday February 10, 2018 from 10:00AM-12:00PM. Please spread the word about our high quality Montessori education to all of your friends and family members. Our school relies on recommendations from all of you to maintain our family atmosphere and high quality environment. Teachers will be available to answer questions about our programs and tours of our school will be available. Please join our family!

Kindergarten Music Concert

Please join our Kindergarteners on Friday, January 19th at 2:00pm for their Music Concert. This concert will showcase all the wonderful musical ideas our developing musicians have learned so far this school year.



Holiday Card Contest Winners

Mt. Clemens Montessori participated in the BMCC Charter School Office Holiday Card Contest. We sent in numerous beautiful holiday cards from across grade levels. Thank you to all who participated. Six of our talented students won this contest.

Congratulations to *Luca Dedenbach, Hailey Frankowiak, Landen Gregory, Murphy Heurtebise, James Peters, and Rowan Westerman,*



Final daycare payments for *unlimited daycare* are due on February 5, 2018

Hats off...

- ★ Thank you to Mr. Kerekes for his dedication in helping our band students learn all the necessary skills.
- ★ Thank you to all band parents for bringing their children extra early in the mornings for band practice.
- ★ Thank you to our preschoolers for the wonderful holiday performance.
- ★ Thank you to all those who donated to the Mitten Tree.
- ★ Thank you to the Student Council Advisors, Ms. Fickert and Mrs. McNeil to organizing the Great Bedtime Story PJ Drive and Reading fundraiser for our school.
- ★ Thank you to our Cub Scout Pack 1070 Tiger Den and all who donated to collection for Care Packages for our Troops overseas.
- ★ Thank you to all who donated items, time, or energy in making all winter parties a success.



Conscious Discipline – Breathing Techniques

Try these strategies below to help your child calm when frustrated or upset.

The Balloon: Place your hands on top of your head and interlace your fingers. Breathe in through your nose as you raise your arms, inflating an imaginary balloon. Release the air in the balloon by pursing your lips, exhaling slowly, lowering your arms and making a “pbpbpbpb” sound.



The Pretzel: Standing up, cross your ankles. Now cross your right wrist over left, turn your hands so your thumbs are facing the floor, put palms together and interlace fingers. Bend your elbows out and gently turn your hands down and toward your body until they rest on the center of your chest. Put your tongue on the roof of your mouth. Relax and breathe.



The Drain: Extend arms out, pretending your arms are faucets. Tighten arm, shoulder, and face muscles. Exhale slowly making a “ssshhh” sound and release all your muscles, draining out the stress.



Help Siblings Get Along

If you have more than one child, you know that siblings don't always live in perfect harmony.

Try these suggestions to limit conflict:

- Catch your children at their good moments. Point out something specific they're doing so they can repeat it.
Example: “I love how nicely you've been talking to each other all morning”.
- Give your children a chance to solve their own disagreements. Rather than stepping in as soon as they start squabbling, you might simply stay nearby in case things get out of hand.
- If your youngsters need your help to fix a problem, try offering choices.
Example: “Do you want to share the trains, or would you rather divide them up?”
- When all of the above fail, the three “L's” always help.....
Laughter, listening, and love!

Grab Your Passport...Celebrate International Month

International Assembly February 2, 2018

As part of our International Month, our students will be studying different continents around the world. Our international celebration culminates in our International Assembly on Friday, February 2nd. Each grade will study a different continent and share what they have learned with the other grades at our assembly. One of the greatest moments in International Month comes when children share their family's history and experiences on different cultures with their classmates. Please ask your child to share all the great information they acquire about other cultures around the world!

- Preschool:** Africa
- Kindergarten:** Antarctica
- First Grade:** Australia
- Second Grade:** South America
- Third Grade:** Asia
- Fourth Grade:** North America
- Fifth Grade:** Europe



Put On Your Dancing Shoes

Please join us for our Annual MTCMA Family Dance on Friday, January 19th at 6:00PM at Mt. Clemens High School. This wonderful event is sponsored and organized by our hard-working Parent Guild and should not be missed. Tickets will be available in the School Office. Our dance has become a wonderful annual tradition that brings together families for a night of dancing fun. A reminder that all children **must** be accompanied by an adult at the dance. Do not miss the event of the year!

Preschool Observations

Spending time observing in a Montessori classroom provides you with an excellent and unparalleled opportunity to see what life is like inside a Montessori classroom and how your child thrives in this environment. Whether this is your first exposure to the Montessori classroom or you have been with us for a couple years, your experience in the classroom will give you an insight as to what your child is experiencing as a Montessori student, and how they are progressing in this environment. During the month of January formal observations for Preschool children will take place. Please call the School Office to schedule an appointment to see your child at work. Further information will be made available when you arrive for your observation. Please join us!!!



Parent Guild Members

Bridget Goudelock, **President**
Veronica Moravcik, **Vice President**
Renea Pominville, **Secretary**
Beth Taylor, **Treasurer**
Laura Warren, **Communications**

Visit the Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy Parent Guild **Facebook Page** to connect with MTCMA families



School Closing Information

Please make sure you sign-up for our electronic newsletter and School Closing Information at www.mtclemensmontessori.com. Please click on "Mail Chimp" under join our mailing list.

In addition to those email alerts, you can also check TV Channel 2, 4, and 7 and WJR AM for School Closings. Please look for "Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy" to be listed. Furthermore School Closing announcements and information are posted on the school Facebook page.



A Better School of Thought.

1070 Hampton
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

Phone
(586) 465-5545

Fax
(586) 465-2283

E-mail
mtcma@comcast.net

Website
www.mtclemensmontessori.com